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August 2017

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ALL THE RIGHT NOTES

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talents of Charlie Siem

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Bagista will be launching a collaborative pop up store, which is set to include their impressive range of high-end designer handbags alongside a number of exclusive luxury brands, who will be showcasing the best in fine art, fashion, jewellery, decor and more.

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says Bagista's Director, Sarina Rai.

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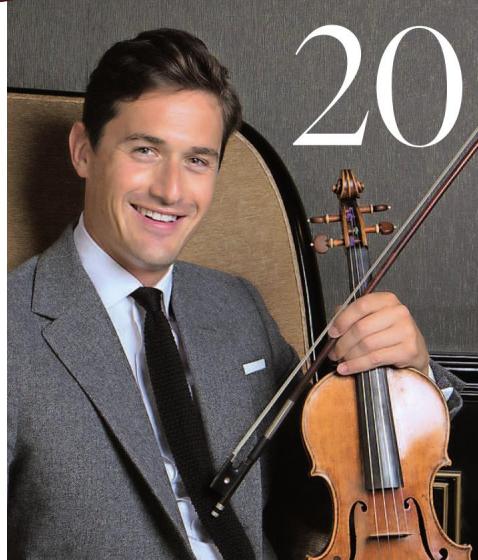
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The best of classic
British home designs

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AUGUST 2017

Letter from the EDITOR

Is the word ‘patriot’ becoming a dirty word? We live in strange, unsettling times, where proclaiming that we are celebrating all things British could be interpreted the wrong way. Yes, there are certainly plenty of people – sadly – who will say they are putting Britain first in ways many of us would not condone, but we should not lose sight of what it means to be proud of where you are from.

It’s certainly clear that many who do not live on these shores are keen to get their own piece of Britishness. Dubai, that unique ode to man made luxury, can’t get enough of some of our finest brands, the latest of which – Dukes Dubai – welcomed us in with open arms this month. It got us thinking about how great Britain really is, so we asked our Homes Editor Kara O'Reilly to pick out the classic designs that will never go out of fashion here. We also take a closer look around us at the places and events that can only be found in GB.

The Royal Albert Hall is one for those of a patriotic tendency – can you get more British than The Proms? – so it was rather apt that it has inspired our cover shoot this month, the disgustingly talented Charlie Siem. Whether it’s strolling down the catwalk or dazzling us with his violin playing, Siem is a man who seemingly has it all – and grew up literally around the corner from the venue that was built in honour of Prince Albert.

Now if all this doesn't make you feel proud to be British, then nothing will. Enjoy the issue!



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{THE FINEST EVENTS AND NEW LAUNCHES}

PEERING IN

Look at the world in a whole new light

The Saatchi Gallery's #SelfExpression Competition invites artists, photographers, creative individuals and anyone with a smartphone to turn their gaze away from the self to document the world and those around them, with the chance to win a solo exhibition at the Saatchi Gallery. Entries must not take the form of a selfie and they encourage submissions that are experimental that take smartphone photography in exciting new directions.

See saatchigallery.com/selfexpression for further details

PORTFOLIO

Join the Banquet

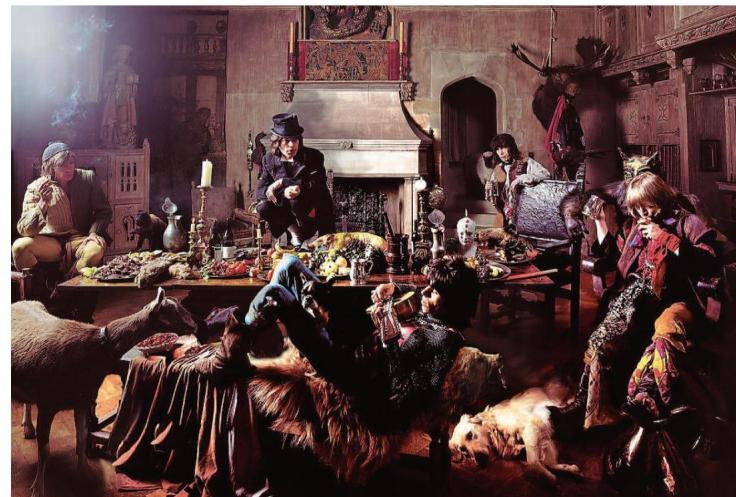
Photographer Michael Joseph takes us behind the scenes of one of the most famous Rolling Stones shoots ever, set to be revisited by Proud Chelsea

Was there a particular brief for the Beggars Banquet shoot back in 1968? It was Beggars Banquet... that was it!

Did you find the locations and then come up with ideas for it, or vice versa? Jacqui Crier, who was newly into styling and had recently retired from the BBC's *Ready, Steady, Go*, found this absolutely fabulous location in Hampstead, Sarum Chase in East Heath drive. All very gothic and she filled it with wacky things! I gave the band four bottles of a very good Bordeaux, but they all behaved immaculately as we only had two hours to shoot. They were all a bit frazzled too as Brian Jones had been busted the night before.

Looking back, what is the first thing that pops into your head about the shoot? The scary caretaker who was OK with us having food and animals, even goats! But he was worried we'd sneak some naked ladies in. He asked with concern as he hadn't been informed of any extras. He said if we did, the church commission would charge an extra tenner on top of the £100 location fee!

How did the two locations, Hampstead and Swarkestone in Derbyshire, work? Brilliantly as we could get the film processed overnight and I could print up a roll of black and white I shot to conclude the shoot. We were using new graphic paper Kodalith, which being a very rich sepia made the images stunning! I only printed one and a portrait of Mick for them to sign. Mick was so excited when he saw the richness, he said the colour was boring and the rest is history! Day two was 100 miles up the newly opened M1 at Swarkestone in Derbyshire. So Mick invited me and my Julie Christie girlfriend to join him in his limo. He gave the A.D. the boot as he said there was no space in the car. We were then raced by the others in a follow up Daimler.



Did the band suggest ideas for the shoot, or did you conjure up all the ideas? They were happy to follow my direction. They arrived promptly at 11am and saw the lavishness of the location, my impressive strobe, the swimming pool, light source, a 10x8 camera and me brandishing a megaphone and trying to co-ordinate five different animals!

Do you have a favourite shot? A quick snap on my Nikon as the 10x8 was still coming in a van. It's a picture of The Stones surrounded by cows. It's like the cows were all star-struck! I only shot two exposures and feel this shot works amazingly, especially the 35mm sprocket edge. And unbelievably it's number one on the roll and Kodachrome, which was the ultimate reportage photographer's film, had number one on it!

How does it feel to be revisiting the shoot for the Proud Chelsea exhibition? I'm very grateful to Amy Thorne, Proud's gallery manager, for making me take another look at what has become my pension! And thanks to National Portrait Gallery for using various Stones images in three shows now.

Is there anything special we can expect at the King's Road gallery? Whilst trying to choose images that sum up these two ridiculous days, Amy and I found some long lost prints hiding behind piles of posters and have created a new image from two vintage Kodalith prints, which were printed 50 years ago next June. Mick got so excited by the sepia Kodalith prints, he rejected all my colour prints and turned the Beggars Banquet into a bit of history.

Beggars Banquet: Photographs by Michael Joseph is on at Proud Chelsea until 30 July; proud.co.uk

Above: Rolling Stones Beggars Banquet: The Banquet

Right: Smokey Stones On Grass

Bottom Left:
Stones &
Cows, Michael
Joseph's
favourite shot





PORTFOLIO



Super set

Developed in partnership with Warner Bros. Consumer Products and DC Entertainment, The Art of Brick: DC Super Heroes at London's South Bank is a special exhibition showcasing more than 120 sculptures created exclusively from LEGO® bricks inspired by the characters, iconography and rich legacy of the DC mythology.

The exhibition is open daily until early September, with tickets available at aotbdc.co.uk



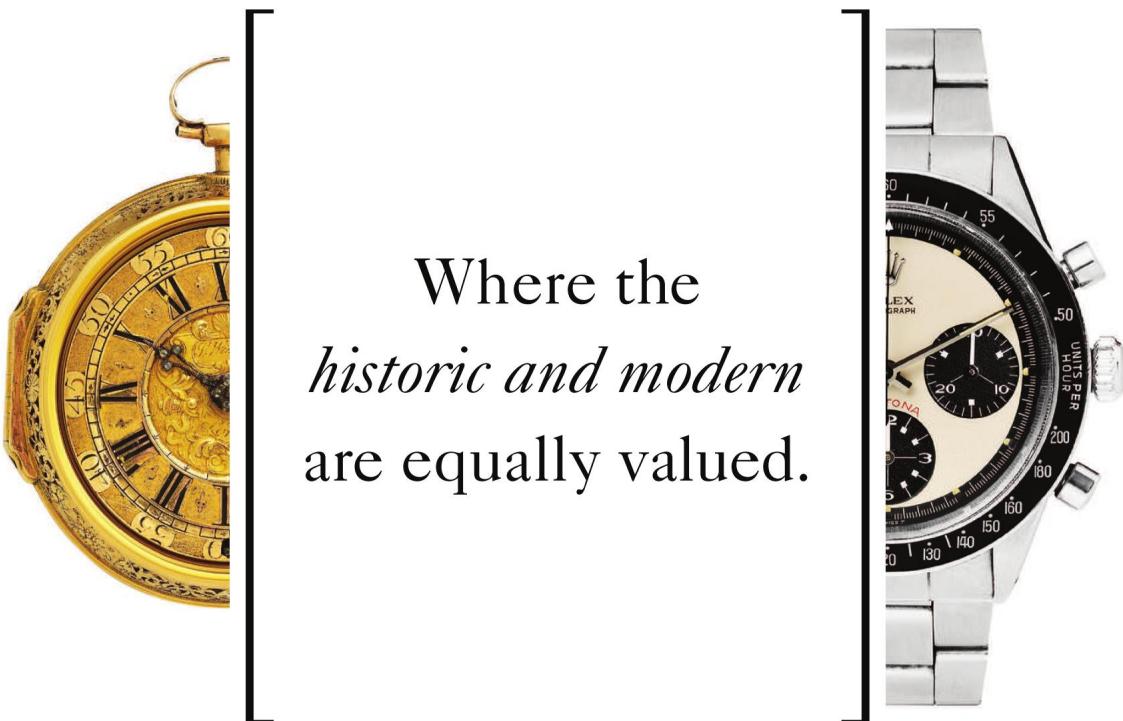
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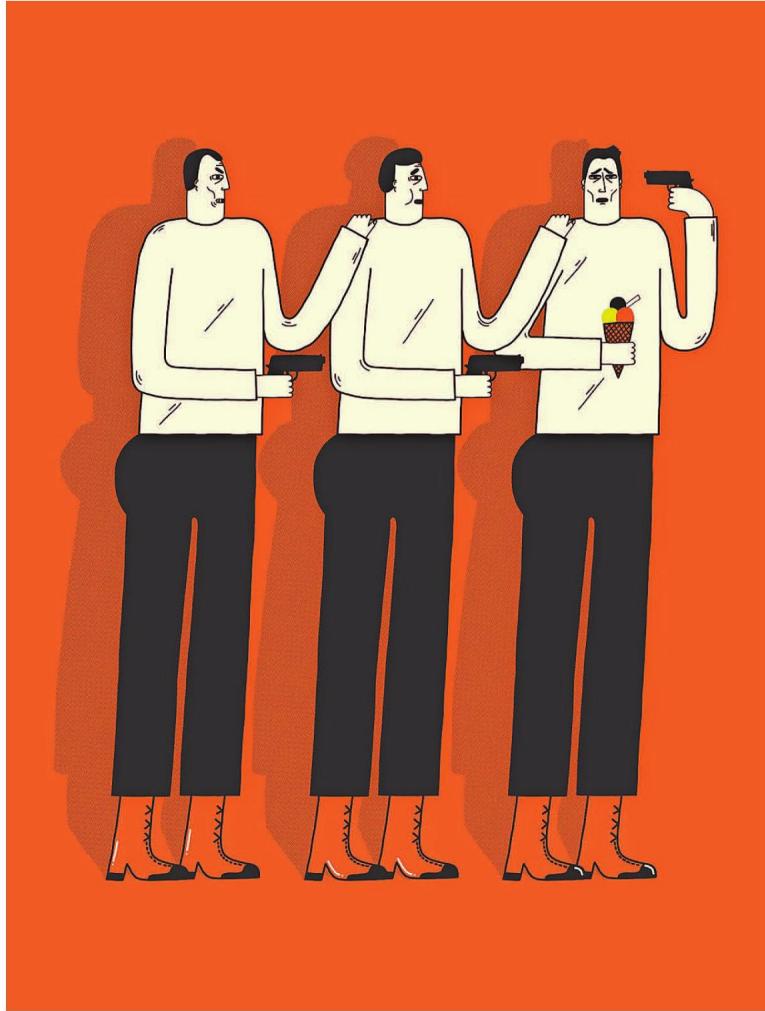
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Dulcet tones

Now in its fourth year, the Ronnie Scott's International Piano Trio Festival has announced the line up for its week-long extravaganza devoted to the jazz piano trio. Highlights include on 21 August Piano Trio Festival Pianothon, 22 August Mariely Pacheco Trio (pictured) and Tin Men and the Telephone, and 23 August Trio ELF. ronniescotts.co.uk



Film more

Somerset House and Print Club London have collaborated on the fifth edition of the Summer Screen Prints exhibition, which brings limited-edition film prints to Somerset House throughout August, such as *In Bruges* pictured left. This year's display will be the most extensive to date, inspired by the Film4 Summer Screen programme. somersethouse.org.uk



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popupscreens.co.uk



Prints charming

Our book of the month is the rather apt – see our British special later – *A Century of Prints in Britain*, an essential guide showcasing over 200 highlights from the Arts Council Collection's renowned print holdings.
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Rosanna Falconer

THE PEOPLE TO KNOW

In conjunction with Chelsea in Bloom, Oliver Peoples hosted an intimate event recently to celebrate their 30th anniversary. The world diverted their eyes away from Cannes at the tail end of May to the internationally renowned shopping street where Oliver Peoples welcomed media, VIP and influencers to the Sloane Square boutique. Guests including Andrew Cooper, Ben Nordberg, Rosanna Falconer, Henry Conway, Harriet Rose, Rick Edwards, Rowan Lewis, Alistair Guy, Tom Stubbs, Camilla Morton and Christian Vit joined Oliver Peoples to celebrate. Fat Tony DJ'd to the intimate crowd, who dined on tuna tartare, beef with parmesan sablés, Ragstone goat's cheese with truffles, Cromer crab and avocado filo tartlets, pistachio and rosewater meringues.



Rowan Lewis



Olivia Cox



Tom Stubbs and Alistair Guy



ANOTHER STRING TO THE BOW

With a foray into the world of fashion and modelling, it's clear that world famous violinist Charlie Siem is a man of many talents



He's been described as the Mick Jagger of classical music and if it's his passion for the cause that has anything to do with it, then it's easy to see why. Charlie Siem is, quite literally, the very model of a perfect classical musician, fiercely dedicated to his craft. But he has also been hitting the high notes in modelling too of late, in high profile collaborations with brands such as Dunhill, Vogue and Dior.

As a string musician myself, I can't help but pass comment on the beauty of Siem's violin and his face lights up – it's clearly something that ignites an excited and childlike fire within him. 'It's a nice story actually as it was owned by the man who inspired me to pick up a violin, Yehudi Menuhin,' smiles Siem. 'It's special for me to have that connection.'

Siem has been playing violin since the age of four, after hearing the iconic Menuhin on the radio because his mother played classical music to him. Siem is still as enthusiastic when he talks about the instrument now as he was as a three-year-old, wide-eyed boy.

'The violin in a way is an extension of the human voice, it's very close in register and there's something heart wrenching about the sound when it's played well,' he says. 'It is very direct and it communicates to the soul. It has a human quality that is slightly disembodied – as a wooden box that's attached to your neck, it's ▶



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sort of growing out of your vocal chords, so it physically feels like an extension to the voice. There's an eerie naturalism that I love.'

Recently, Siem has become somewhat of a star in the world of modelling as well. Having been invited to play at a book launch for Mario Testino, the next day the casting director for Dunhill contacted him and asked if he would be featured in a campaign. The fashion exposure meant Siem later met Anna Wintour, who gave him exposure in *Vogue*.

But that doesn't mean he has forgotten his roots; in fact, one of Siem's favourite venues to play is still the Royal Albert Hall – a short walk from his family home. He's refreshingly grounded, modest and exudes a loyalty to his upbringing

The Royal Albert Hall is so huge, but on stage it doesn't feel very big

and home in Kensington. 'I grew up here and even though I spend a lot of my time in Monaco, it is still home,' says Siem. 'I love having coffee on Thackeray Street in Ottoemezzo and Iddu on Harrington Road. I love coffee culture; it's important to me.'

He is outwardly grateful for the opportunities he's been given and is humbled by the idea that he is in a position where he can continue to learn from each space that he is presented with. 'I think every space is a collaboration with an instrument, because it is dependent on the surroundings,' he says. 'Every audience and the energy they give off is different, so it's a



dynamic process that changes.'

He goes on to tell me how there are some wonderful venues around the world, such as the Tchaikovsky Hall in Moscow or the Carnegie Hall in New York. But sometimes it's a sense of intimacy that Siem yearns for. 'The Albert Hall is so huge but on stage there it doesn't feel very big,' he says. 'Perhaps because it's in the round, it feels very connected and very intimate and I love playing there.'

As much as Siem isn't a fan of the narrative that classical music has to reinvent itself and become more current, he does like the idea that, in recent years, it has been advertised in a way that might have encouraged more young people to get involved. Similarly, his forays into modelling have meant that he has opened the door of the musical genre to people who may not even be musical at all.

'I have a little group of followers who aren't musicians and have come to me through magazines and they've then

become fascinated by classical music so that's wonderful,' he says. 'It's opened it up to new people and given me exposure to a new audience. There is even a group called the Charlie's Angels.'

There is no two ways about it, as modest as Siem wants to be, he is, in many ways, changing people's perception of the violin as an instrument and classical music as a whole. 'Maybe, yeah – not everyone assumes someone like me would be playing the violin at this age,' he smiles. 'It can be quite an underestimated instrument. That's what I like about the Charlie's Angels – if there are just a couple of people that find a new and profound impact in the violin then that is enough for me.'

With so much passion for classical music, it's unsurprising that Siem is the Artistic Director of a new music festival concept that will engage with so many different demographics – The New Generation Festival in Florence. 'It's the first installment in August and it's a way of giving younger musicians a chance,' he says.

'The spirit of the festival is that it starts off classical, goes into jazz, before it ends with a DJ and a rave on the balcony of an old Corsini Palace. It's a great concept.' In truly individual Siem style, we can see this turning heads to classical music this summer. ■

Above; Siem has been playing the violin since the age of four

Below;
The Royal Albert Hall by night



For tickets or more information, visit newgenerationfestival.org

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HENRY CONWAY

Creating civilized summer London plans

August is the most frustrating month. Work sucks – everyone is out of London, gallivanting around the South of France or raving it up in Ibiza, and due to the necessity of earning a crust, some of us find ourselves working. In our hearts we all feel it monstrously unfair that we didn't inherit six billion, as think how beautifully we would have spent it – so unless dear reader you are amongst the idle rich, you need to put some distractions, treats and motivations in place to get you through. One can waste inordinate amounts of time looking up cat-fail videos on Facebook, or stalking the ex on Instagram, so limit your time on them, crack on with what you have to do, and if time in the office requires a bit of fluff, then educate yourself as to why Schiaparelli was a genius or what clean eating trend you should be prepping for next month. Languid days are universally unmotivated and distraction seems overwhelming. One needs a plan – a little self-help to get you through, and a bracing of spirits.

Should you be like me, basically an overgrown Pomeranian, you will need treats and encouragement. Bribe me with rewards, and I will perform every trick in the training manual. August brings treats in the form of outdoor wine and foodie pop ups. Having been an ambassador for Kensington's Night Market, I have discovered it comes with its joys and hazards. Apart from eating delicious wood pigeon kebabs from Native and discovering the joys of bourbon-heavy peach iced

tea, learning to navigate how to eat like a civilized human was a challenge. With few tables and cutlery a myth, we regressed to eating with our hands – enormous fun but caution required. The Mews Truffle Burger was the star of the show, and I had so many that I developed my own summer burger-eating technique. No cutting in half – you start on one side, turn when it starts to dribble and hold well away from the body. Giggle furiously, and make sure you have many, many napkins.

We trotted through Hyde Park until we got to the middle and pretended we were in the country

Eating en plein air, as you know, is one of my favourite joys, but unlike art, you simply have to embrace the mess. If it makes you nervous, try something more organized: White City sees Pergola on the Roof return, with a sister site in Paddington – none of this cheese-from-a-van nonsense, but proper, delicious, honest, gourmet food. With tables. Patty & Bun and Breddos Tacos are just two of the finger licking delights that will spur you on throughout your office day from hell. That and a well-iced vat of rose should help.

Pack a picnic and take it to the park. I grabbed tins (I know, tins, moi) of Pimms from M&S the other day and trotted through Hyde Park until we got to the middle and pretended we were in the country. If you haven't packed glasswear, this is on the edge of acceptability. If really prepped though, what could fire you on through the daily afternoon energy crash than a wicker hamper filled with nibbles, vintage Veuve and an ice bucket. Find your spot, and indulge. Remember – avoid sushi: chopsticks and grass are always a challenge too far. ▶



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Time to take it **OUTSIDE**

Regent's Park Open Air Theatre is celebrating winning London Theatre of the Year, so what is it about the outdoors that makes events so special?

Words BETHAN ANDREWS

Ithink being in the great outdoors gives a better dynamic and it's a very collaborative thing,' comments Timothy Sheader, Artistic Director of Regent's Park Open Air Theatre. 'In this case, with the theatrical aspect, there are no huge iron curtains separating the audience and the cast, so there is more intimacy there and a relationship is more palpable and exciting.'

Events outdoors in summertime London, hosted under the dusky night sky and lit up by the various nuances of busy city life in the

background, are a popular occurrence. It seems that London isn't made for sitting around indoors and once the weather warms up, hanging around outdoors in this beautiful city is perfect. People flock to certain organised nights and there's a real sense of the community coming together with a lot of them. Many people tell me that it's a tangible way of enjoying the outdoors while we can, but still feeling connected to the bustle of the London they love year-round.

Regent's Park Open Air Theatre is perhaps one of the most popular

of these happenings and since Sheader has taken over as Artistic Director, boundaries have been pushed and the award for London Theatre of the Year by *The Stage* highlights its popularity. So what is it that people love so much?

For Sheader, he is adamant that it is the freedom and the inclusive atmosphere that outdoor events bring to London. He tells me how the freedom of being outside means that, in this case, you can go about the event with fewer strictures than indoor theatre and he is passionate about the way in which the open ▶



Artistic Director
Timothy Sheader



Regent's Park outdoor dining
and drinking area

THE COMMUNITY CARNIVAL

For Notting Hill, the outdoor events all accumulate on one big party

Although it might be fair to say that Londoners have had a love/hate relationship with the annual Notting Hill Carnival, I think everyone senses that this year might be a little bit different.

It's always a time when the community really comes together and, despite the backlash and controversy at times, it is a sure show of the true passion and love that exists within W11 for neighbourhood. This year, with the devastating Grenfell Tower fire fresh in everyone's mind, the diverse and vibrant community will come together to support each other at the carnival.

As Sadiq Khan told *The Guardian*: 'The Notting Hill carnival is one of the world's biggest street festivals and has become a firm London tradition over many decades. It was born out of the African-Caribbean immigrant community in Notting Hill in the 50s, and it's only right that this remains its home. This year's carnival marks the terrible tragedy at Grenfell Tower and we will work closely with the organisers and the wider community to ensure an appropriate commemoration.'



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air element brings a new dimension to theatre for the audience.

'It's less stuffy and opens theatre up to people who might not normally go to traditional theatre,' he says. 'It feels much more democratic, as if there is more equality when things are done outside. You can bring your own picnic, drink on the lawn and it's open and free. It's a real haven.'

Less traditional events pose a way of people engaging with a wider demographic of people and focus on bringing different communities together. 'I completely agree,' says Sheader. 'The nature of theatre and outdoor events has adapted to wider audiences.'

There is more intimacy and a relationship is more palpable and exciting

So what made Sheader want to take on the project and the challenge of an open air theatre? 'I think it was the audience. I remember directing a play for Ian Talbot who ran the theatre before I did and not having a great time in rehearsals as I just couldn't understand the weather and I didn't like the unpredictability that it brought,' says Sheader honestly.

'Then, I went to see the show one evening during the run, sat back and so completely enjoyed the complicity of performer and audience, under the night sky and the joy that it was creating amongst nearly 1,300 people. The communion was great, which is



Another of the main fixtures on the outdoor calendar is the Film4 Summer Screen at Somerset House, showing cult films beneath the moonlight in a spectacular setting

Often people feel that some of the best events take place in the outdoors, surrounded by our favourite landmarks. Film4 Summer Screen is one of these events that people love, and it brings the best of cinema to one of the most spectacular settings in London.

The annual festival presents a two-week programme – handpicked by Film4 and Somerset House – of contemporary,

cult and classic films, plus premieres of new releases from around the world.

The 2017 festival will open with *An Inconvenient Sequel: Truth to Power*, the stirring sequel to the Oscar-winning 2006 documentary *An Inconvenient Truth*, which follows the former Vice President Al Gore as he continues his fight against climate change. And this year is particularly special, as Somerset House is welcoming Gore himself

to present the premiere and participate in a special on-stage Q&A.

Another highlight this year will be the winner of the prestigious Palme d'Or award at this year's Cannes film festival – *The Square*. Specially selected DJ sets will also animate The Edmond J. Safra Fountain Court and set the atmosphere for the night.

For more info, visit somersethouse.org.uk

really why we do theatre to come together in a place of worship, joy, wonder and the inspiring of ideas.'

He is no stranger to the less traditional spaces when it comes to theatre; in fact, it's something he is very used to. He tells me how his first big break in a large space was in the round, and he has always been more at home away from the proscenium arch.

'Every director of my generation and below has had to work around cuts and lesser opportunities,' he says. 'Quite frankly, we were not given main-house work as it was considered too risky so we didn't grow up in proscenium arch theatre. It was a lot of studios and alternative spaces so most theatre, apart from the West End, is shifting away from that traditional idea.'

It's fair to say that during Sheader's time at the Open Air Theatre he has reinvigorated the

event and tackled some hugely difficult and challenging productions. Clearly, a challenge is something that he rises to, but it's more than that as well, and it's obvious that he is passionate about creating outdoor theatre that can be enjoyed by a diverse group of people, pushing the boundaries of what is expected and opening it up to those, as he said, who may not usually enjoy theatre. This, to me, is the crux of outdoor events – bringing a new community together.

'There is a real community and a real sense of being in this together,' says Sheader. 'It's special for the community around the park too because, although they don't own it, they are there every day of the year and it is very much their park. It's nice for them to be able to share this love with others.' **r**



openairtheatre.com

BRITS ABROAD

This area is, as we know, charm personified – so little wonder the likes of Dubai are seeking to replicate it

Words VICKY SMITH



The first time I went to Dubai, I returned home surprised – I never thought I'd be able to get on board with the feeling of total excess, a place in such hot pursuit of building the biggest, best, highest, and most expensive of everything. And what about culture? What would there be for those who – like me – travel to learn the history of a place, its roots and origins. Surely, that kind of place would offer only one kind of getaway? I was wrong. Because, in terms of holiday experiences, pretty much anything is possible in Dubai, and that's its biggest draw (in addition to almost guaranteed sunshine).

Fancy skiing when it's 40-plus degrees outside? Fine. Want to gaze over a twinkling skyline from the top of the world's tallest building? That's no problem either. Feel like taking a dip in the ocean, partaking in a three-hour brunch then traversing the desert dunes in a 4x4, all before dinner? Check, check and, er, check.

Case in point: Dukes Dubai, a brand-new hotel that's opened in the desert metropolis, and the first ever offshoot of the original Dukes Hotel in St James's. The London site is a place that oozes quintessentially old-school Englishness in all its richly carpeted glory, with muted tones, old masters on the walls (and

often in the bar too) and fine British dining, all wrapped up in a 19th century red-brick building. It's an American tourist's dream, with an extra dose of Union Jack-decked charm. How the hell do you make that work in the middle of a desert over 3,000 miles away?





As I said, in Dubai the seemingly impossible becomes a reality, and while stepping into the new hotel's vast, shiny lobby – where I'm dwarfed by a chandelier of such gargantuan proportions, you can't imagine how on earth it stays up there – is an undeniably different experience to entering its St James's counterpart. I spy replicas of some of the artwork that hangs in the London site, and receive a low-key, courteous welcome that is undeniably familiar, and certainly very British.

The echoes from home continue in my vast Duchess room (located on a floor that's reserved for women only), where curtains and bedspreads from Liberty

Fabrics, bathroom cosmetics from Floris and a tiny dachshund stuffed toy (the brand's mascot) await to welcome me. I step out onto the balcony into what feels like a solid wall of humidity – it's only 7.30am, but the heat is an early riser here, and as the sun shines straight off the floor-to-ceiling windows

behind me, all the Brit-inspired interiors in the world couldn't make me forget where I am. As I take in the skyline in front of me, for every sparkling high-rise hotel or mega-mall, there's a crane

moving slowly around, a reminder that while Dubai has developed at a fast pace, it's not thinking of slowing down anytime soon.

I, on the other hand, am very much in search of some rest and recuperation, so make my way to the hotel's pretty beach, which as well as being a very serene stretch of sandiness, is also a bit of a novelty, as many of the hotels in Dubai don't have the privilege of a private beach. Taking advantage of it, I settle in, and in true British style, I sit under the sun's full rays for approximately ten minutes ▶

If may have a different outlook, but Dukes Dubai shares much in common with its London counterpart

In Dubai, the seemingly impossible becomes a reality



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before retreating under a shade to discuss the temperature, in depth, for at least half an hour.

Like its London counterpart, Dukes Dubai is located in one of the fancier parts of town – The Palm. The notion of a ‘fancier part of town’ in a place like Dubai seems ludicrous, but this man-made island in the shape of a – you guessed it – palm tree houses some of the finest hotels and houses (read: small palaces) you’ll find in the emirate. Atlantis hotel, one of Dubai’s most iconic structures, stands on the outer ring of the island, while Dukes is nestled at the other side. Being situated here means an impressive view over the Dubai Marina.

Despite preconceptions that drinking in this part of the world is unwise, within the confines of a hotel, and providing you show respect in a place that’s traditionally dry, it’s not a problem. In fact, one of Dukes’ biggest draws is the chance to sample its signature martini in its chic bar. It’s claimed that Ian Fleming gave Bond his passion for martinis because of the ones

served at Dukes London, so if you’re staying here, it’s a bit of a must. They’re created table-side with a serious dose of showmanship, and the iconic vodka/vermouth blend is as potent as you’d imagine for a drink favoured by a super-tough international spy (fictional or otherwise).

Food and drink is indeed superlative throughout the 275-room hotel, and assistant food and beverage manager Dean Jarvis spent the last decade working at Claridges before making the move east to Dubai, so you can expect dishes with a thoroughly British edge, whether that’s fish and chips at GBR (Great British Restaurant), afternoon tea in the impossibly pretty Champagne and Tea Lounge, or an Indian banquet in the spectacular top-floor restaurant Khyber (because it doesn’t get more British than a curry, right?). Fish comes from Billingsgate, lamb is imported from Wales, and there’s more than one glass of Pimms enjoyed during our stay – the words ‘taste of home’ are pretty apt.

A TASTE OF HOME

Food and drink

Gordon Ramsay’s Bread Street Kitchen has made the transition from St Paul’s in London to the Atlantis hotel in Dubai, bringing with it the warehouse-style vibe that’s made it such a hit in the UK. Ramsay isn’t the only Brit chef cooking up a storm in the emirate, with Jason Atherton recently opening Marina Social, while veteran English chef Gary Rhodes runs Rhodes Twenty10 in Le Royal Meridien Beach Resort.

Arts and Culture

The British Council in Dubai works to promote people in Dubai with learning opportunities and creative ideas from the UK. This includes performances, such as the ‘Shakespeare Under the Stars’ series, which this year staged Macbeth in an immersive experience, using the original text but moving all the action to be set in Dubai. Currently on show is an exhibition by British contemporary sculpture Tony Cragg.

The great British high street
There isn’t just one branch of M&S in

Dubai, there’s eight. With so many British expats in town, it’s hardly surprising that the demand for prawn mayo sandwiches would be high, and the brand is thriving in the emirate. A John Lewis has also just opened (much to the delight of the members of expat forum britishmums.com), as well as a Tesco and WH Smith. Just like going down your local high street. But hotter.

Sports

British Polo Day is a big part of Dubai’s sporting and social calendar, with teams from the likes of Eton, Harrow, Oxford, Cambridge and the British Army competing. Meanwhile, Liverpool FC have launched an international youth academy in Dubai to hone youngsters’ talent and interest and there’s a thriving cricket scene, too. If you prefer to watch than participate, then it doesn’t get more best of British than sports bar the Crown and Lion where you can settle in to watch the match against a backdrop of wood-panelled walls, darts boards and old pub mirrors.

The stunning chandelier greets you on arrival, top left, and all the rooms have a real quintessential British feel, below

Dukes isn’t the only British export to Dubai, and with around 240,000 UK expats currently living there, it’s unsurprising that a raft of UK brands and exports thrive in the emirate. There are even some of the UK’s favourite sporting exports to enjoy – the major difference being, of course, that the chance of rain putting a dampener on things is greatly reduced. **T**

Double rooms at Dukes Dubai start from £187*/AED 875 in low season; and from £316*/AED1,478 in high season. Breakfast included. For more information visit dukesdubai.com and visitudhabi.com (*Prices in GBP based on today's exchange rate)



IN THE SUMMERTIME

From Dubai to west London, for the very best of British look no further than our close neighbours

Words NIKKI SPENCER

Whether you opt for strawberry jam or clotted cream first (growing up in Devon, it has to be cream first), there's nothing more British than a pot of loose leaf tea with scones, finger sandwiches and cakes.

And on a summer afternoon, the place to enjoy it is in the beautifully flowery room of Palm Court at The Ritz (theritzlondon.com), looking out over the landscaped gardens and the River Thames below.

The clink of china and relaxed chatter is punctuated by sounds of wonder, as people climatise themselves to the world-famous surroundings. The Ritz London is the only hotel in the UK to have a certified Tea Sommelier, Giandomenico Scanu, who travels around the world to various tea plantations to source the wonderful teas. Why not try their exclusive Royal Blend Tea, only available at The Ritz?

The elegant ambience is complemented by a musical ensemble from the resident pianist and harpist – the final ingredient to ensure your Afternoon Tea at The Ritz, is quite simply, unforgettably British.

When The Ritz first opened its doors on 24 May 1906, it was considered one of the greatest hotels in the world. Conceived by the famous hotelier César Ritz with the aim of becoming the ultimate destination for guests looking to stay at the most luxurious hotel in the land, no expense was spared on its opulent interiors and lavish furnishings.

And perhaps solidifying it as the best of British, in January 2002, the hotel received a Royal Warrant for Banqueting and Catering Services. Awarded by His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales, The Ritz London is the first, and only, hotel to have been honoured with this prestigious award.

Slightly off the beaten track from central London, but a sure fire place to find the most quintessentially British fun, head to The Bingham in Richmond for some modern British fare in the restaurant. Here, residents can make the most of the Thames Cycle Route, which runs past the garden. A few years ago ▶





Iconic destinations for the authentic best of British experience in west London include Kew Gardens, The Bingham and Fulham Palace, which come into their own in the summer months





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the hotel invested in a fleet of Pashley bikes, hand built to order by England's longest established cycle manufacturer.

'Guests love using them and there are so many wonderful places to visit nearby,' says hotel owner Samantha Trinder. 'They head into Richmond Park to see the deer or cycle through Petersham Meadows to The National Trust's Ham House,' she says. 'We are just so lucky to have it all on our doorstep.'

A little more on the casual side and heading back in toward the city, Fulham Palace (fulhampalace.org) is also a go-to destination for a traditional afternoon tea. The Drawing Room Café is a haven overlooking the gardens and their offering includes scones, clotted cream and a homemade loaf cake. It's a well-deserved treat after a morning exploring the historic house and garden itself. Home to the Bishop of London since 1704, there you can discover over 1,300 years of British history. With a nod to America, in September there are also open air screenings of *La La Land* and *The Great Gatsby* in September with Luna Cinema.

And that's not all: on Thursday 24 August, you can pack up a (quintessentially British, of course) hamper and enjoy a nationally acclaimed production of *Pride & Prejudice*, based on the novel by English treasure Jane Austen. Brought to you by outdoor theatre company Illyria, it's billed as a feisty, vibrant romantic comedy performed under the stars.

As we mentioned in our feature exploring the best of the outdoors in London, there is nothing more British than snuggling up on a striped deckchair,



Take a picnic on a bike ride, enter the 'Hive', or enjoy a film screening in the great outdoors



under the stars with popcorn, surrounded by the historic landmark of Somerset House. The Film4 Summer Screen brings all sorts of films to the court that you are able to enjoy with a tipple of English sparkling wine and strawberries.

Head out down river and you'll then find all the glory of Kew Gardens (kew.org), from Queen Charlotte's 300-year-old cottage and the iconic tropical Palmhouse to the world's longest double herbaceous border and British artist Wolfgang Buttress' spectacularly mesmerising 17 metre aluminium 'Hive' structure. Kew takes on the air of a modern day pleasure garden in summer, when you can bring a picnic and enjoy open air concerts and movies after hours. Just don't forget to pack your umbrella... **I**

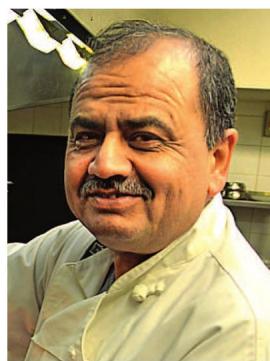
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YOGESH DATTA

Here's to a fabulous 15 years in Chelsea

July will see us celebrating The Painted Heron's 15 year anniversary. We began with a plan to offer excellent cuisine and it's what has truly kept us in our customer's hearts since then. It's been a constant project of love and endurance for us and my team, and we enjoy being an important point of London's foodie scene just as much as we did when we opened our doors in 2002!

I was previously the Head Chef at Tabla in Canary Wharf, where I soon left and partnered up with businessman Charles Hill. Shortly after our opening we were voted Best Indian Restaurant in London. Many accolades for our food, décor and atmosphere followed, which elevated our profile and contributed enormously to our much-loved longevity.

The history of Chelsea, along with its colourful locals, was a huge initial pull for us – we genuinely believed, and still do, that the borough is one that continues to offer a wonderful sense of community and passion for quality.

Menu-wise, it's been said many times that we differ from a typical experience of Indian food. Our current menu offers delights like wild boar with rajasthani chillis, and okra and asparagus fritters – which have been known to raise some eyebrows! We also continue to experiment with cocktails and soft drinks, as well as officially launching a gourmet children's menu later this year.

The rebirth of our original menu is pure celebration. When we launched we had an ambition to redefine what Indian fine dining meant to London, and I feel we definitely succeeded. Now, with the many food trends occurring

across the city along with the recent resurgence of interest and passion in Indian food, I feel that our original menu stands as one of the capital's blueprints for excellence in variance and flavour.

We also originated the trend for high-end takeaway and still serve a wide range of clientele (including some famous faces!) who enjoy our fare in the comfort of their own home. The three-course offering, which will be available for £15 during lunch and early dinner hours, still stands as an innovative and sumptuous experience, and I hope we continue to offer inspiration to those in the industry, as well as to our loyal and expanding network of customers.

Chelsea is an area that never fades or goes out of style; it changes and evolves, of course, but it's a staple synonymous with the spirit of the city and I'm immensely proud that The Painted Heron has become part of its legend. **R**

112 Cheyne Walk SW10 0DJ; 020 7351 5232;
thepaintedheron.com





DOWN MEMORY LANE

Acclaimed restaurant Quaglino's is redefining its bar area and using the cocktails to tell the story of the history of the iconic venue

Words BETHAN ANDREWS

Cocktails are drinks of divided opinion, with many opting to steer clear of them for fear of never having had the right one. I'm exactly one of those people, scarred by my younger years of terrible, juicy and cheap glasses of Sex on the Beach. But sometimes, even I have to admit that some establishments get it just right and when you find those few that do, they normally blow you away.

Iconic Mayfair haunt Quaglino's is one of those places. Famed for its restaurant and history, they serve one of the most impressive and cleverly thought out cocktail menus in London today. Surprisingly, however, Quaglino's is often not thought of

for its bar, but purely focused on its world-class restaurant, and this is something that the team are on a mission to change.

And the focus? Quaglino's encapsulating history provides the inspiration for the bar area of the establishment. As I walk in to our interview, I'm told that the restaurant was founded in 1929 by Giovanni Quaglino, a restaurateur hailing from northern Italy. Quaglino was an exceptionally talented waiter, and by 17 he was maître d'hôtel at the grand Martinez Hotel in Cannes.

He later came to England and The Savoy, where he worked with another maître d'hôtel, Sovrani. When Sovrani left to open his own restaurant in Jermyn Street,

Quaglino went with him. However, Sovrani repaid this loyalty by taking too keen an interest in his employee's pretty wife. In turn, Quaglino returned the favour by taking charge of the restaurant at the St James's Palace Hotel, just around the corner in Bury Street, and competed for Sovrani's customers. He won this grudge match with a combination of exceptional food and service, but mostly with his personality. Thus, Quaglino's was born.

So what better way to kick off my journey into the fascinating stories behind the venue than with a sip on the Cheating Lady cocktail, having observed the intricate workings that go into making it first too. There is no



Marco Sangion,
assistant bar
manager,
top left, and
Davide Arruci,
Quaglino's
head bartender,
below

stone left unturned with mixologist and head bartender Davide Arruci in charge and the cocktail comes complete with rice paper skirt, a cheeky straw that symbolises the leg emerging from beneath. Finished with a flurry of glitter and banana powder, the spectacle is wonderful to watch.

'We came up with this concept for the menu together, as we wanted to tell the story of the history of Quaglino's,' explains

assistant bar manager Marco Sangion. 'We have 20 signature cocktails that Davide and the team have created and we have put them together by dividing them into five different eras starting in 1925, progressing to 2017.'

Even the font within the menu changes and evolves throughout, in order to showcase and create an immersive experience of the changing of time. It is small details such as this that make the experience really special. 'It's like walking through time,' says Arruci. 'We put the simple and classic cocktails in the beginning, and then in the future you have the more interesting cocktails that always include something very special like the Time Machine.'

Many of the glasses and drinking apparatus are made especially for Quaglino's too, adding to the exclusive element of the famous establishment. Everything is thought about and everything links back to the history. What is also nice is the way in which some of the drinks also tell the story of the local area, the neighbourhood of Mayfair as it would have been then. It really is a case of delving back into the history books here and it's truly fascinating.

'It took us four or five months to put together, as there was a lot

of research in terms of history and cocktails with the texture and body of the drinks completely following the timeline element too,' says Sangion. 'What is wonderful about this new menu is that the guys behind the bar have even started cooking. If you come in at 5am, you'll find them cooking the day's ingredients, the syrups and the infusions, and taking things so much further than what you would imagine from a traditional bar. It has become a very complex bar and we are very proud of this.'

They are not ones for stepping down from a challenge here clearly and, this year, it was important to Sangion and Arruci that they recycle

*We wanted to tell
the story of the
history and heritage
of Quaglino's*

everything. 'We don't throw anything away,' smiles Arruci. 'Everything is reused and I believe that if every bar does it, we will have a better planet. We even create banana powder. Anything is usable, everything is homemade.'

With such an immersive way of presenting the new menu, it's perhaps no surprise that the public have enjoyed it. 'The reaction from the public has been amazing. They get excited about learning the story and hearing the history they didn't know,' says Sangion. 'I believe we've made it an experience here and you can truly feel the history behind these walls, which I feel is something that sets us apart.'

But do the men behind the menu have a favourite? 'I can probably choose 19 out of 20,' laughs Sangion. 'I couldn't possibly choose as every different cocktail will give you a different experience, they are multi-dimensional drinks. There are so many different layers to the drink, including tactile elements where our customers add ingredients themselves.' They have worked hard here, and the passion shines through. If you fancy a special trip down memory lane, Quaglino's won't disappoint. **[r]**



16 Bury Street SW1Y 6AJ; 020 7930 6767; quaglinos-restaurant.co.uk

SQUARE MEAL

West London's Albertine has quite a back story – and thanks to Allegra McEvedy, it's on course for a bright future too

Words EMILY MANSON

OK I'll admit it, I have a girl-crush. Interviewing Allegra McEvedy has left me with that wonderful glow of sisterhood that comes from sharing life experience, mutual respect and a good bout of hearty laughter.

By the time this comes out, McEvedy will be a mum of two. As it stands she's seven months pregnant and still going strong. 'I'm made of solid stuff,' she says casually. Starting a new restaurant is full on at the best of times, but doing it with bump and child is another matter altogether.

But then, the west London born and bred chef has always wowed us – from her initial healthy, yet deliciously unfussy grub at Leon, to her brilliantly accessible food writing, and caring tones as TV presenter (*Junior Bake Off*), she's generally regarded as an all-round good culinary egg with a mission.

Her passion for the ecological and sustainable side of things comes without being preachy – as more of a practical and heartfelt drive. She explains: 'All chefs with a bit of profile have a responsibility. Our environment is a massive issue and we need to work out how to feed our children and theirs. I can't separate that from my cooking life.'

This ensures she lives her life and runs her businesses according to those core principles – no matter what the project. And we're sitting in her latest.

It's the very exciting opening of her new restaurant. Well not-so-new as it turns out, because it's Albertine. You know the place, the little wine bar on Wood Lane by Westfield that you probably got 'a bit tipsy in' 20 years ago (or was that just me?), and is the very restaurant her mother began, way back in the 70s.

After 35 years under the curation of family friend Giles Phillips, who took over from her mother, McEvedy has regained ownership of this gorgeous little wine bar and brought it back full circle into the family. 'Albertine is written in my bones and it felt

like it was the right time to do my time here,' she states. True to her down-to-earth style, it's very much McEvedy using her roots and flair to create the place we all wish we had at the end of our street. She's utilising all three floors for the first time: the ground floor wine bar, first floor restaurant, and second

floor oh-so-cutesy private room, just perfect for birthday get togethers, leaving dos and fun dinners.

And of course the wine and food are still key. Over 150 amazing, interesting wines (25 by the glass!) that can't be found anywhere else at minimal mark ups and special take-out prices still remains their core principle. 'Being good value and accessible is enormously important to me. There are 100 wines to take away on the way home from £9-£50 – we're like a supermarket!' she laughs.

Albertine is written in my bones and it felt like it was the right time to do my time here



Ingredients will be sourced from local suppliers, creating a hearty menu



Allegra McEvedy pictured in the pristine new Albertine

The food is carefully sourced from as many local suppliers as possible – Macken’s, The Fishmongers Kitchen and Slow Bread to name a few. The deliciously unfussy food mixes comfort and French bistro in equal measure, ‘just a touch more than you can be bothered to do at home, but very much every day food’ she says unpretentiously. It’s got a relaxed Francophile, slightly 70s feel, without being gimmicky and, just as in her mum’s day, there’s a freshly made quiche on the menu every day.

‘I was keen to keep the vibe of authentic and local,’ she says. ‘We still have lots of salads, charcuterie, cheeses and puddings, which is the same as the 70s.’ But with Head Chef and business partner Roberto Freddi, a very talented Italian chef, they have also mixed it up a bit with other more modern dishes – like hake and clam bake with tomato broth.

From the moment we start talking, it’s clear this is more than just the next job or a new restaurant for McEvedy. ‘Albertine is pretty much all I have left of my mum,’ she says poignantly at one point, moving swiftly on to regale me with one of her first memories of seeing her mum cooking in the kitchen at Albertine as she walked through the door after school – a



memory which repeated itself with her own daughter just recently. ‘It was like an intergenerational astral projection,’ she says, ‘the most peculiar thing was for a second there was this thread and I couldn’t tell who I was.’

So with one daughter of her own already and another on the way, I have a feeling that like *EastEnders*’ famous Albert Square, which was named after Albertine – a frequent haunt of the BBC writers – its story will continue to run and run. **T**

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THE SQUARE

Words ALEXANDER LARMAN

Under the great Phil Howard, Mayfair's The Square attracted more plaudits than most chefs would dream of in a lifetime. Two Michelin stars were but the (very splendid) icing on the cake as Howard's exemplary cooking was the toast of the town for decades. And then, inevitably, change came. Howard, citing boredom and over-familiarity, left for Elystan Street, where he has quickly established himself once again. Super-restaurateur Marlon Abela took over The Square, and installed executive chef Yu Sugimoto, late of Le Meurice in Paris. A fresh and new approach was promised. Has it happened?

The room at The Square remains as it always was. The sleek, slightly anonymous setting drips with class and prestige; there can be little doubt that this remains a place to see and be seen. A pity, then, that the departure of Howard has meant that it's no longer the hotspot that it once was. It used to be the case that one had to wait weeks to get a table. Now, a visit on a warm Thursday evening sees the restaurant barely half full.

This is very much not because things have gone downhill. Not only is the front of house team one of the best in London – if you're going to spending around £150 a head a dinner,



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The malt-crusted beef is both delicious and theatrical in its presentation

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then the people serving you should know what they're doing – but Sugimoto's food is both exemplary and constantly surprising. The a la carte is divided into four courses, each relatively small, and there is a heavy emphasis on fish. If you're expecting rich and filling dishes, you'll be disappointed, but this means that delights like crab soufflé, sugar-spiced foie gras and (a particular highlight, albeit one attracting a supplement) malt crusted beef with bone marrow can

be enjoyed to the full, without one feeling exhausted. Even the amuse bouches and pre-desserts feel light and genuinely palate-cleansing, rather than the time-consuming extra course that they can so often be.

Wine has always been a big deal here, and, given Abela's dedication to making sure that his restaurants offer exemplary lists, it's no surprise that the sommelier Stephen Nisbet oversees a fine assortment of vintages and bins, at a varied range of prices. Nobody would ever pretend that The Square is a budget option, but food of this calibre has never come cheap. As long as it stays at this level, they can charge virtually what they like. **T**

6-10 Bruton Street W1J 6PU; 020 7495 7100;
squererestaurant.com

FOOD NOTEBOOK

Fresh flavours perfect for summer



SEA OF CHANGE

In celebration of summer, the bar at D&D London's Avenue restaurant in St James's will be transformed into a Hamptons-themed escape. Running until the end of August, 'Avenue goes to the Hamptons' will bring a range of fresh seafood dishes and seasonal cocktails to the glamorous bar, evocative of the American resort.

avenue-restaurant.co.uk



Feast for the senses

Don't miss the S.Pellegrino Harvey Nichols banquets, which are taking place this summer on the Harvey Nichols Fifth Floor Terrace. Dates for the diary include Chris Denney cooking on 25 July and Lee Westcott on Tuesday 1 August.

harveynichols.com



INDIAN SUMMER

Chutney Mary in St James's has launched a new weekend brunch, available on both Saturday and Sunday. They have created a compelling menu of spicy dishes featuring a range of egg and salad options, plus a la carte gems.

chutneymary.com



Sweet treats

Hotel Café Royal has announced the launch of a new all-day dining destination, Papillon. The 38-seat space will be a celebration of Europe's traditional and elegant café culture. Expect such innovation as this smoked salmon cake.

hotelcaferoyal.com

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zhengchelsea.co.uk



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nirvanakitchenlondon.co.uk



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AARON SIMPSON

Why the personal experience will always be in demand

Technology has become essential in our every day lives, but also in the way we choose to travel and use services. Restaurants, attractions, events, products and entertainment – you name it, and we can find a lot of it online. But the choice of apps available is overwhelming and nine times out of ten, if you actually want to find something different, trustworthy or truly special, you have to search far and wide. Even then, you may only be basing your decisions on the recommendations of strangers on a website.

I know how important it is for all of my team to stay one step ahead of the game and to know exactly which app does what and how well. This includes apps that can work as a multi-lingual map with fast access to new openings, elusive restaurant tables and luxe hotel rooms at the last minute, for example. It also means knowing what concierge apps are up and why they are popular. It usually comes down to two things: ease of navigation and speed. But the vital human element is missing and for many hard working Quintessentially members willing to spend their hard earned cash on possibly their only holiday of the year or on a special occasion, the idea of getting the venue or the itinerary wrong is just not an option.

We have seen a resurgence in sales of vinyl records and books, and this underlines something fundamental. People want to experience things in person. Given the requests we are seeing from our Members all around the world, we can be sure to

see transformations in the ‘human’ concierge service, but that is all very positive. For this reason, what we do here is to engage fully with our members for the whole duration of their request. So if we are busy with someone who wants the holiday of a lifetime at the last minute, we can deploy all of our significant local knowledge on the ground through our Lifestyle

Managers. Rather than trawling through an app or browsing the web, all our members need to do is to let their dedicated Lifestyle Manager know of an idea and the LM will do the rest to shape it. This includes pre, during and post-holiday. No detail is left to chance. Every hotel, restaurant, flight booked and special

moment will be organised through our strong and personal connections that we can vouch for in person.

When it comes down to it, unless someone is looking for a really basic service, they will always prefer to trust a personal recommendation. It’s human nature. At Quintessentially, we are proactive, never passive and we care about the human experience. We appreciate that a person may change their minds or have more than one line of enquiry that needs to take more than one person into account. Experts with a

deep understanding of the individual can never be replaced by an app or website, however intuitive they may profess to be. The power to engage in conversation and ask enlightening questions, the power to be discerning and intuitive, these are priceless. ■



quintessentially.com



VINTAGE APPEAL

Christened 'The Vintage King', William Banks-Blaney scours the globe for the ultimate in vintage and hand-picks every single William Vintage piece – and is why he's one to watch for us.

williamvintage.com



Rodin classic

A lighter addition to Linda Rodin's fragrance wardrobe, RODIN 3 is a refreshing Eau de Toilette, inspired by the bright, breezy scents Rodin wore in the 70s. Each spritz sparkles with floral notes of geranium, jasmine and ylang-ylang, before settling to a musky base of santal and patchouli.

£145 for 100ml, from panache cosmetics.com

RESIDENT STYLE FILE

The best in fashion and grooming



MAN MADE

In August, Liberty London will be opening the doors to its newly refurbished menswear department on the Lower Ground floor that has been redesigned as a space for the modern Liberty London man. The redesign creates a unique backdrop for an enhanced menswear offer.

liberty.co.uk

Worthy tribute

The Tribute to Fifty Fathoms MIL-SPEC 'Only Watch' unique piece by Blancpain is equipped with self-winding caliber 1151, comprising 210 components notably including two series-coupled mainspring barrels ensuring a four-day power reserve.

blancpain.com





Time to sparkle

Annoushka Ducas is delighted to announce the arrival of her playful new Twist Bug Bangles. Crafted in 18ct Gold, the bangles immortalise three of Annoushka's most beloved bugs: the bee, the butterfly and the dragonfly, all of which feature frequently across her existing designs.

From £895; annoushka.com

TIME FOR BED

Inspired by the English eccentric aesthetic, Otis Batterbee marks his stamp across a range of Travel, Style, Beauty, Home and Lifestyle collections, and have just launched their new collection in the Harrods Bedroom & Bathroom department. Visit otisbatterbee.com to find out more details.

3 of the best BATH SOAKS



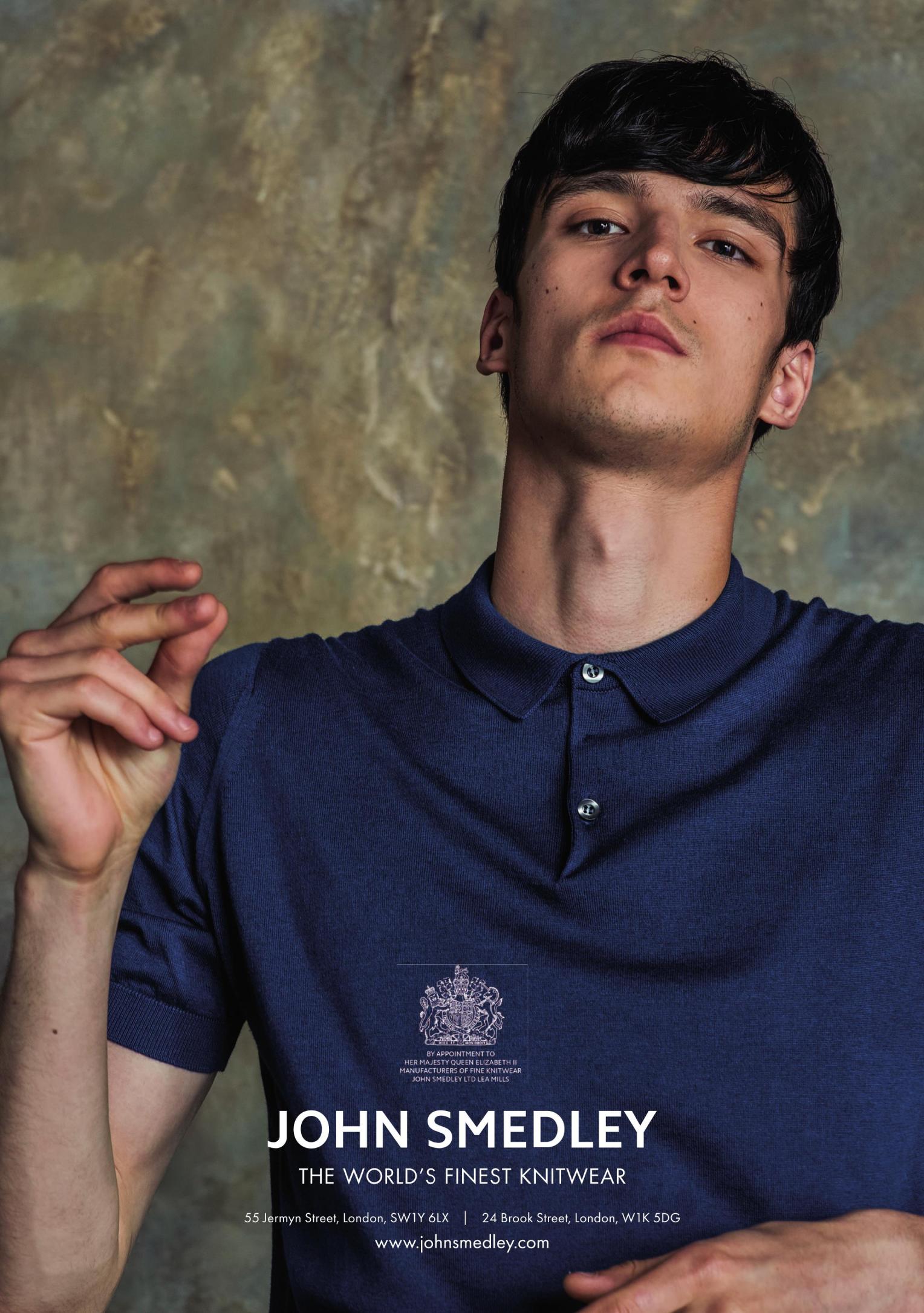
ELEMIS Aching Muscle Super Soak, £37 at elemis.com



MOLTON BROWN LONDON Silver Birch Thermal Bath Soak, £19 at moltonbrown.com



SUSANNE KAUFMANN Alkalising Salt, £30 at libertylondon.com



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MASSAGE MAN

Anwar Ravjani has a unique integrated approach to massage, so we went to try one of his tension-busting treatments

Words TRISH LESSLIE

Heading out into the real world after a blissful massage is a sure-fire way to undo the relaxing benefits of a tension-busting treatment. I'm all for a deep-tissue rub-down, but having one in the comfort of my own home is the only way to wallow in the muscle-loosening benefits when it ends.

So with my shoulders tensed up around my ears and a migraine in the making, I booked a home session with Anwar Ravjani, whose bespoke treatments are renowned for helping to restore a sense of balance to mind and body. In fact, so devoted to his unique de-stressing methods is his clientele that many of his regulars jet him out to knead their knotted muscles when they're travelling for business or on a break abroad.

Ravjani first trained in numerous bodywork techniques (including Thai, Shiatsu and Aromatherapy massage) before branching out into Reiki, crystal, spiritual and Shamanic healing, as well as homoeopathy, acupuncture and Neuro Linguistic Programming. This multi-disciplinary background allows him to tailor his treatments to help clients tune in to how their bodies respond to stress and combat some of the physical symptoms.

'When we are stressed we lose touch with who we are and how it



feels to be in our bodies,' he says. 'Over time, our feelings of anxiety increase and our body ends up being in a perpetual state of stress. Often, we don't realise it as we've become used to it. Stress becomes our new normal.'



Anwar Ravjani

Stress certainly felt like my 'new normal' on the evening the softly-spoken therapist rocked up with his comfy couch. As he began a full body massage by working on my upper back, he pointed out how I inadvertently tense my shoulders every time I inhale, something that

no doubt contributes to my regular headaches. He also applied acupuncture needles to 'trigger points' in my upper back to help disperse muscular tension.

After over an hour of Ravjani's attention, my entire body, including my usually rigid shoulders, felt rag-doll relaxed.

*When we are stressed
we lose touch with
who we are*

Even better, opting for an evening appointment allowed me to slip into my PJs after I hopped off the couch. As Ravjani used unscented coconut oil – blended with aromatherapy oils of warming Black Pepper, calming Vetiver and fragrant Frankincense – my skin was left soft and supple without any greasy residue, so no need for a counter-productively stimulating shower before bedtime.

After ten hours of restful sleep, I awoke refreshed, my headache fading into the background rather than taking centre stage for days. My muscles continued to loosen up over the next few days, too. I just hope I can catch him again before one of his lucky regulars jets him off to the Cote D'Azur. ■

embodimentworks.co.uk

CLOSE SHAVE

Pall Mall Barbers has just celebrated its 120th anniversary, so what is the key to its success and why do they appeal so much to the modern man?

Words BETHAN ANDREWS

Pall Mall Barbers first opened its doors in 1896 and has been serving London ever since, making it one of the oldest barbershops in the country. With locations in Trafalgar Square, Fitzrovia, Westminster and Bishopsgate, the team has over 350 years of international expertise and provides a mixture of old-school service and razor sharp techniques.

Richard Marshall, who founded the store as it is known today when he acquired the business in 2005, is passionate about combining heritage with modernity.

'When I first saw the store, I could see that it had lost its way and I just wanted to get it back onto its journey. Once I'd taken it on, I received an email from a lady in Perth. A member of her family had passed away and she was rummaging through their loft and found two photos of the Saloon in its original state. It turns out that one of the barbers in the photo had to flee London before WWII,

where he emigrated to Australia.'

They are rich in stories here and it's this, in many ways, which keeps people coming back for more. 'It's all about the authenticity here and our legacy is what sets us apart,' says Marshall. 'We're not just a barber shop that looks old, we have a real heritage. Not just myself, but the entire team

Knowing the history created a feeling of electricity for me

are barbers, even our accountant. We weren't born from a business idea; we were born from a passion. That said, we're still open to new ideas and innovation. Our tag line is traditional service in a modern manner and that's not just a slogan, it's at the core of our business.'

They've tried to keep the interiors as authentic as possible with original fixtures and fittings, and if you've ever been into one of

their shops, you'll notice the dark oak panelling and white metro tiles. Also, each store still has an original barber pole outside. 'Our techniques are also traditional; we use the same tools such as the cut throat razor and front washbasin but, at the same time, we continue to develop through education,' says Marshall. 'Our barbers are the very best they can be and are always up to date with the latest techniques.'

I can't help but wonder what it must feel like to work for a company that holds so much history. 'It looks like my moisturiser is doing a very good job, doesn't it?' laughs Marshall. 'Joking aside, celebrating the milestone of 120 years was amazing and fills us with great achievement. Having the history behind us gives us an edge and the ability to move forward in an ever-growing sector. It's very special.'

Marshall tells me how barbering itself hasn't changed that much over the years. Techniques have sharpened, he says, but trends have come and gone and the core values of barbing have stayed the same for centuries. 'The details have definitely improved and, by that, I mean the sensory experiences; the music, the environment and the rapport with the barber themselves,' he says. 'People want a bespoke service, something that is just for them so it's important that's reflected.'

But what is it that makes Pall Mall Barbers so appealing to the modern man, as their popularity is something that isn't often seen elsewhere in the barbershop trade? 'I think we are aware that the term gentleman is a little antiquated. The modern man is completely





CLASSIC COLOGNE

Celebrate 120 years with their new signature cologne. This classic scent has been specially designed for men, and is the perfect finishing touch for skin after grooming – ideal for wear both during the day or evening. Designed by Pall Mall Barbers, it is a classic fragrance which evokes the heritage.

Available in store for £40.
27 Whitcomb St WC2H 7EP;
pallmallbarbers.com



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individual,' says Marshall.

'Trends have become a thing of the past and everyone who steps through our door interprets style differently, has a different lifestyle to the next and has a different connection with us. Pall Mall Barbers respects individuality and we like our clients to experience no barriers. We're an extension of their grooming ritual and no matter how different they are, they come to us for one reason: to feel good.'

This sense of openness, compassion and inclusivity is something that stands out here and it's clearly something that is important to Marshall. They are a part of the Lions Barber Collective, a barbering group that urges hairdressers and barbers to join forces to tackle the stigma of mental health and male suicide.

'By utilising their one-on-one time with customers to offer an ear to men, barbers are in the perfect opportunity to provide a listening ear and notice the first signs,' says Marshall. 'One of my best friends committed suicide and it was a difficult experience for all of us. So many men don't talk about their

personal issues and are frightened to share them. We make sure our barbers know how to communicate and build friendships so clients feel open enough to share.'

With looking forward and a modern approach something that comes naturally to Pall Mall Barbers and beautifully contrasts with their history and traditions, what's next in their future? 'We're launching a new store in King's Cross towards the end of the year,' says Marshall. 'It's a ten-seater barber store, so our biggest yet. We're also forming some great relationships internationally, so an expansion overseas is on the horizon too.' **R**



Richard Marshall



HABITUAL BLISS

Steal yourself away from the hustle and bustle and live among the treetops at this fabulously secluded resort in Phuket

Words BETHAN ANDREWS



The food, above, is a main event at the resort. The view from the new rooms in the Habita can be seen right

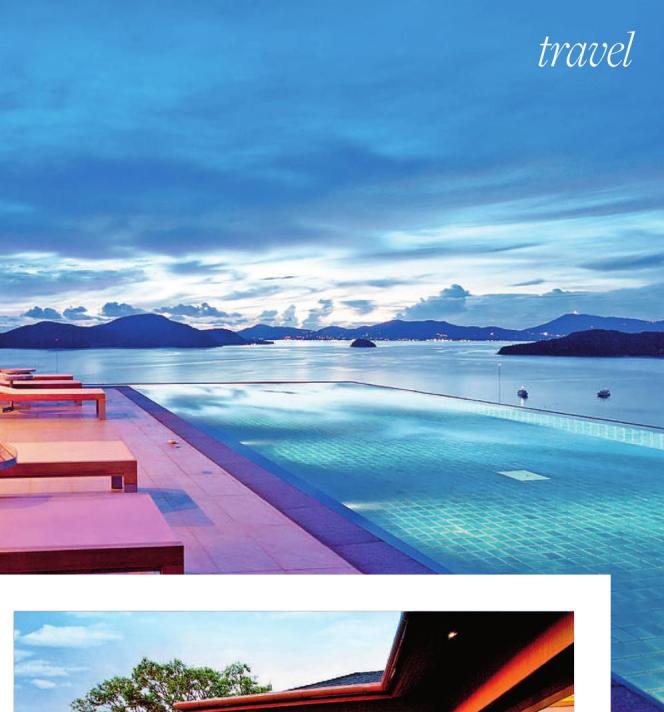
Phuket is known for its stunning rainforested and mountainous landscapes, not to mention some of Thailand's most beautiful beaches. But despite knowing this, it's hard not to be somewhat unprepared for the beauty and sight of Sri Panwa, Phuket, and it takes a while to be able to take it all in. Although Phuket is one of the largest islands at 49km, you'd be forgiven for thinking you were on one of the

smallest and most remote when you arrive in Sri Panwa.

The resort is situated at the top of Cape Panwa on the southeastern tip of Phuket, hidden away down an unassuming turn off the beaten track. James Bond-esque villas, surrounded by private infinity pools, sit on the top of rocky hills and boast full ocean views. Wherever you turn on this resort, you'll be met with one of the most breathtaking scenes you have ever seen. It's an Instagram and social media influencer's paradise, and it's not hard to see why.

After a 45-minute transfer from the airport, I arrived at the most incredible villa. Set in a gated enclave, the main bedroom has a bathroom with couples jacuzzi and steam room and the living room overlooks the wraparound private infinity pool. In a separate building across the garden there is a dining area perfect for room service overlooking the Andaman





Sea below and a generously stocked complimentary mini bar and kitchen.

The new habitat offering, The Habita at Sri Panwa, is also not an exception to the standard of the villas – even though it is offered at a slightly cheaper price. All 30 new pool suites feature their own infinity swimming pool with panoramic views of the sea and also of the beautiful gardens surrounding the Olympic size tropical swimming pool. If your dream escape is kicking back on a cabana bed, with cocktail in hand and waterfalls dripping around you, then this is the place for you.

There's nothing quite like the view and the feeling of eternity and content when water meets the sky and this is something you have in abundance in Sri Panwa. In fact, nearly everywhere you turn you will be greeted with this view. It means that their rooftop bar offerings are on top of the game here. Baba Nest is set on top of one of the resort's buildings with a wrap around infinity pool that surrounds the rooftop deck, overlooking 360 degrees

TRIP NOTES

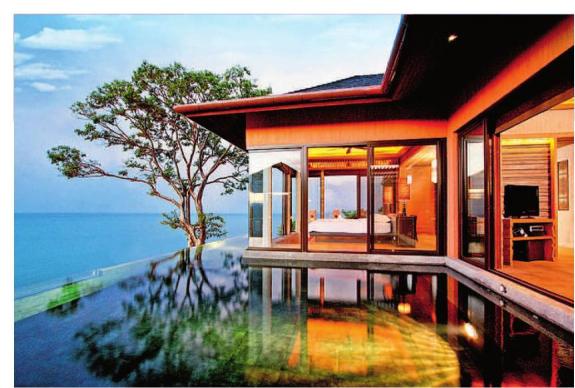
Accommodation at Sri Panwa starts from £325 per room per night in the Habita suite, and £495 per villa per night for a Garden View Pool Villa. Prices include daily breakfast for two, unlimited wireless internet, in-villa mini bar, Nespresso machine and snacks replenished daily. For further information, visit sripanwa.com or call +66 7637 1000. You can fly daily from Heathrow to Bangkok with EVA Air. Return fares start from £465pp inclusive of taxes evaair.com

panoramic views of the surrounding islands.

And for those yogis out there, the opportunity to take part in yoga lessons on top of the world in Baba Nest is not one to miss. In fact, Sri Panwa is a great place to stay if you like a combination of activity and relaxation. The resort is fully equipped with a gym and tennis courts, but you can also take part in a Muay Thai boxing class with a champion boxer.

The hospitality here is truly second to none. A Tuk Tuk will arrive at a moment's notice to whisk you off to anywhere – even within a few lazy feet – on the resort, but the staff will also be on hand to take you out to the old town for a day or a boat ride to the islands. An opportunity not to miss, in my eyes.

The old town of Phuket is a wonderful opportunity to forget about the modern world and immerse yourself within the colourful, vibrant and historic



culture of the island. Meander down the higgledy piggledy backstreets, slowly browse the sights and smells of some of the best markets and take in the magnificence and the architecture of the temples.

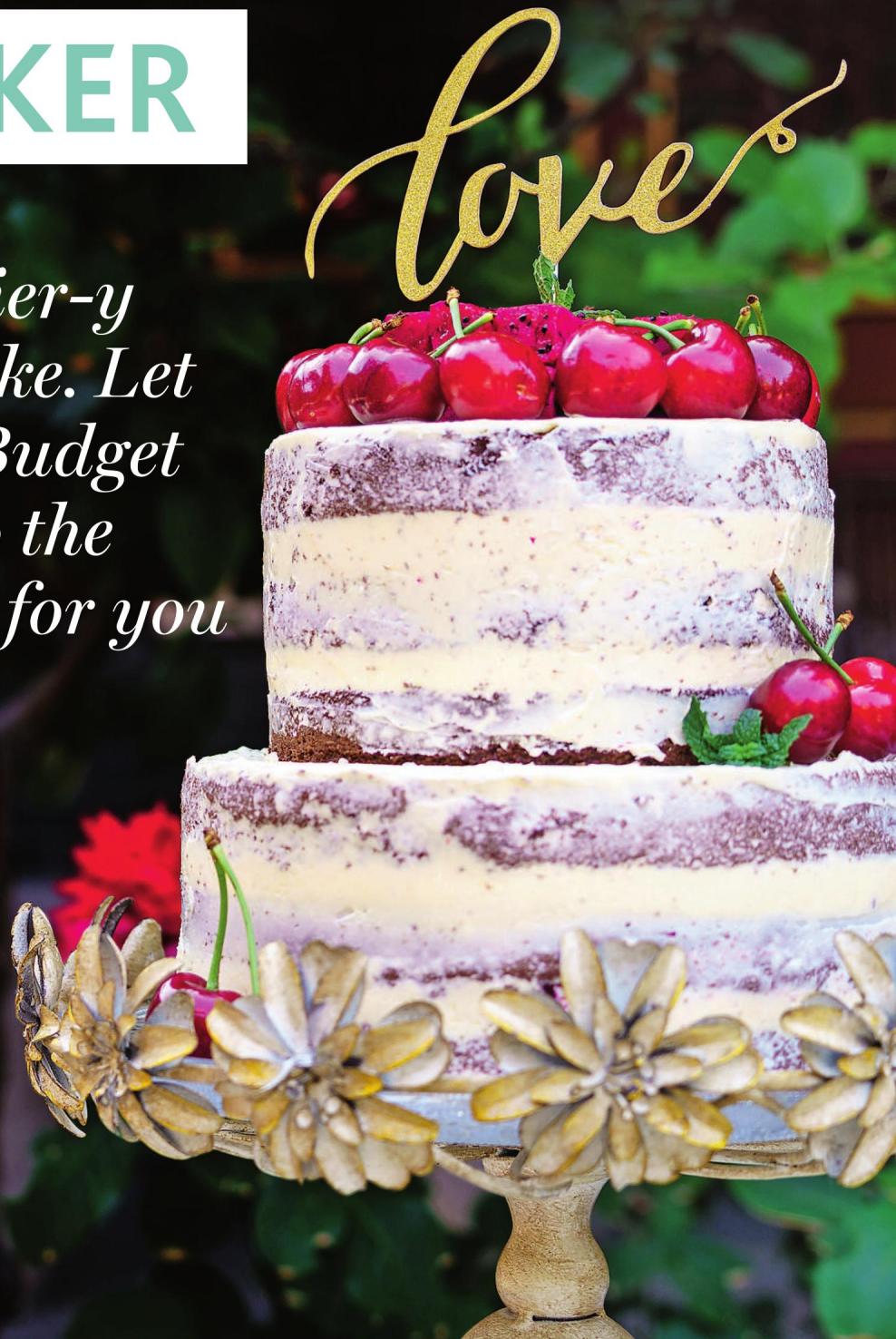
We took a little stop off in one of the most well-known restaurants on the island, Raya, and were served up the most spectacular feast. With original, colonial style seating and the feeling of eating in someone's house, it is a great way to immerse yourself within the culture. The owner, Khun Kulab, is a keen restaurateur who is so popular, there are even orders coming in from as far away as Bangkok. But the food at Sri Panwa is quite the feast too, with 11 different restaurants and bars to choose from onsite – each very different.

From the dramatic scenery of the islands to the rich culture and traditional cuisine, combined perfectly with luxury resorts, you can see why people flock to this part of the world. Words don't do this place and its beautiful attack on the senses justice – it is simply a very special place. **R**

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PALATIAL PARADISE

There's no better time to visit Versailles than summer, the sun brings the palace into definition

Words RACHEL MANTOCK

The Palace of Versailles was always one of those historical greats that I admired from afar – and by afar I mean from Instagram. Of course, knowing that something is beautiful on a colossal scale and preparing for that fact doesn't mean your heart doesn't skip a beat once you see it in real life, stood before you like an intricately detailed, gigantic wedding cake.

By the time we'd completed a private guided tour of the interior, passing by more large paintings with bygone royalty in their fanciful attire, I decided that the palace and all its history was as close to a real-life fairy tale as you could get. And this surreal journey into the ins and outs of this iconic palace only got dreamier the next evening when we all dressed up for the opera in the palace's chapel, which looks exactly as I'd imagine heaven to look like – ornate gold, chalky white pillars and Michelangelo style cherubs dancing across the ceiling.

The majestic views outside my window made me feel like a princess

A vision of beauty in a striking yellow dress, we were all captivated by the first singer before she even began, but once she did, we were lulled into a trance like state that we didn't snap out of until the last applause sounded, as if each singer had evoked some sort of 14th century magic with their angelic voices.

Waking up every morning in my huge suite at the Trianon Palace Hotel, the majestic views outside my window made me feel like a modern day princess. Lunching in the

palace's new modern answer to royal dining, Ore Ducasse was like morphing into an elegant French woman for the day, enjoying small plates of foie gras and Marie Antoinette's favourite desserts.

Visiting the palace in the evening during festival season is a must, with fencing and dancing galore going on. It's the closest you'll ever get to viewing it as it was, with each participant in traditional dress, sauntering through the famous Hall of



Mirrors, putting on a spectacle.

After we happily got lost in maze-like gardens, the trip was brought to a glittering end with a firework show, and viewing the outside of the palace as the night floats in meant we saw it in a completely different magical light.

As I reclined in my comfy seat on the Eurostar's new fleet of trains, I realised Marie Antoinette is more than the person we've made her – witty, strong willed, and not just a pretty face we associate with all things French. **r**

The stunning Palace of Versailles

A Eurostar journey from London to Paris starts from £29 one way. Overnight stays at Trianon Palace Hotel start from £253 on a room only basis





HARBOURING LUXURY

The newly renovated Kensington Harbour Club has all the feeling of an exclusive hotel, leaving you feeling like you can escape every day

Words BETHAN ANDREWS



There's a new club in town, and not one that will leave you bed-ridden and craving a Full English the next day, but one that will progress your health, pamper and prime you. Harbour Clubs, arguably one of London's finest health and fitness groups, has recently opened a new space in Kensington, following a £5.5m transformation.

'We are delighted for Kensington to be joining this prestigious group of west London clubs,' says General Manager Rob Shambles, who oversaw the project. 'They make up the UK's most exclusive collection of health and fitness spaces.'

Set across five floors within the Point West development, the new space has seven group training areas including group fitness studios and a dedicated HIIT training area for Harbour Club's

SYNRGY sessions. Forget the image of your usual gym, think more five-star hotel and you're on the right lines for what to expect.

'We are the proud owners of a 20-metre pool, which is great as a lot of the central London clubs have 15-metre pools, so it really sets us apart,' says Shambles. 'It's wider too so there are four lanes, two lanes for swimming and two lanes for free play.'

Towels are available throughout the club that are complimentary and included within the membership, something that sets the Harbour Club apart from the other David Lloyd clubs. It helps to give off the sense of being in a luxury hotel again, where you are waited on hand and foot.

The Mind and Body floor is perhaps one of the most forward-thinking elements, incorporating mindfulness supporting exercise such as yoga, Broga and Pilates. 'You can fit 30 in the studio,' he says. 'So it's a good size space that really encourages people to unwind and take a step back. Group exercise is a huge part of the identity of this club.' As the water flickers through the windows from the pool area below, there is a wonderful, calming ambience.

One of the pioneering new classes in group exercise is BLAZE. The boutique BLAZE studio offers a whole new way of working out that brings intense cardiovascular training together with strength, boxing and Martial Arts skills. Unleash your energy during a fast-paced workout and see just how hard you've worked with the heart-rate monitoring that ▶

is beamed around the class.

But for those who prefer private exercise, there is personal training on offer with dedicated training pods for privacy, as well as a Reformer Pilates studio for one-on-one tuition. In addition to studios and training areas, there is a restaurant and a business lounge for members, meaning Kensington Harbour Club is not only a place to train, but to work and relax.

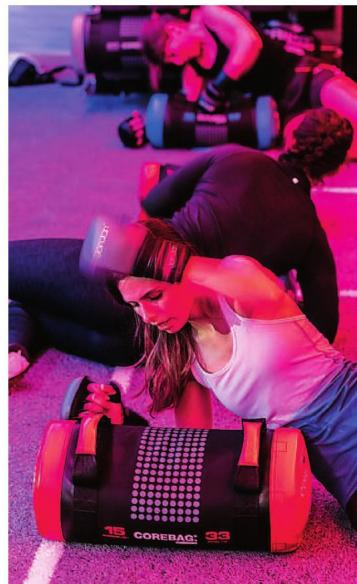
Surprisingly for such an exclusive and luxurious club, family is at the heart of the whole offering with a crèche for the littlest members and areas that

Group exercise is a huge part of the identity of this club

families can enjoy together. Alongside fitness favourites such as swimming and Taekwondo, one of the most exciting elements is that it features the latest innovation in family fitness, a PRAMA interactive fitness studio.

'We truly believe that our members will be blown away by the state of art equipment and superb facilities at the new Harbour Club,' says Shambles. 'Perhaps most of all, though, we can't wait for families to begin experiencing what it has to offer.' **R**

Point West, 116 Cromwell Road SW7 4XR; 0345 129 6709; harbourclub.com



EDUCISE: A WORKOUT REVOLUTION

Rachel Breckner, Client Support Manager at Gabbitas Education, on a new concept in learning

'Healthy Body, Healthy Mind' is a slogan we have all heard before. Whether acting as the motto for schools and universities, athletic clubs and military institutions, or featuring in health articles and 'revision tips' booklets, we now appreciate the positive effects that exercise can have on our brain. In the heart of London, however, we are witnessing the meaning being taken to a whole new level. Enter The Harbour Club.

Their forward-thinking and innovative ethos has led them to join forces with us at Gabbitas Education to create the first education-exercise partnership of its kind; Educise.

Historically, a trip to the gym or spa is an indulgence and one that parents dream of whilst juggling their brood's ever-demanding schedules of extra-curricular activities, homework, exam preparation and birthday parties. But now it can become a regular part of the whole family's week so that exercise and education can be found all in the same place.

The Harbour Club Sales and Marketing Manager, David Adeyinka, says: 'The importance of physical and mental exercise of both parents and children is at the forefront of our minds and together with Gabbitas Education we are delighted to be offering an exciting array of family-friendly initiatives.'

Adeyinka may be referring to the fact that 11+ children are permitted to use the state-of-the-art gym, or that it is the first destination in London to host PRAMA, a brilliant space that looks like an over-sized dance mat, using light to create a really enjoyable workout for the whole family. If parents and teenagers fancy some functional fitness they can take part in the SYNRGY360 group training area: 'It's like a large playground with monkey bars, TRX



stations, mini trampolines and battle ropes - a really fun place to workout,' Adeyinka reveals.

In terms of study and advice, the Harbour Club enables Gabbitas Education (established in 1873) to bring years of education experience to its members within the Club. This includes providing tutors to work with children whilst parents have some 'me' time in the studio or spa; a new take on the concept of 'personal training'. Alternatively, children can enrol in a swim programme whilst parents train their brains with a new language or re-acquaint themselves with a long-lost favourite school subject. Likewise, if parents are looking for expert guidance on the multitude of school and university choices on offer, they could spend an hour with a Gabbitas Education Consultant before or after their workout or whilst their child works up a sweat. The aim being that members will go home from The Harbour Club feeling energised, educated and considerably less stressed!

John Hutchison, COO of Gabbitas Education, believes this initiative is more timely than ever before: 'It would be a struggle to find anybody who does not rate education, family and health as the three most valuable aspects of modern day life and we are delighted to be at the forefront of this revolutionary relationship.'

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Dream come true

Hawkesdown House School's new Headmistress explains why it was an easy decision to take up the Headship

Mrs Jenny Mackay joined Hawkesdown House in April 2017, with a degree in Education from Oxford. 'I considered various Headships before accepting the one at Hawkesdown and key to my choice was that Hawkesdown is the sort of school we all dream of: the emphasis on, and time for, individual attention, a broad curriculum and great results – yes, all of that – but more, it is such a warm, family school, where the boys are comfortable in their own skins and where their character and vigour flourishes at every turn,' she says.

The School's motto is 'Endeavour, Courage, Truth' and the boys are kind, capable and considerate. Hawkesdown House boys are positively encouraged to develop both their initiative and their intellectual curiosity and, right from the beginning, Hawkesdown House provides

advice and support to parents to give pupils a very good and happy start at school.

Hawkesdown House lies at the heart of the Kensington Church Street and Notting Hill community, and the special blend of magic instills a joy of learning. The School concentrates on knowing each pupil and understanding what is important to every family; a philosophy borne out in excellent results and the open, thoughtful and happy nature of the boys.

Mrs Mackay has extensive experience at some of London's most highly sought after and outstanding schools. 'Hawkesdown House is a happy, nurturing and successful school. There is a fantastic, dedicated staff and a wonderful collaborative approach which ensures that the curriculum meets the needs of each and every boy. I am thrilled to be part of this happy family.' ■



Hawkesdown House School,
27 Edge Street W8 7PN; 020 7727 9090;
hawkesdown.co.uk

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The Moat school is an independent day school for children with SpLDs. For more information please visit www.moatschool.org.uk



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Please select either:

AM (11am - 2pm) workshops followed by brunch or
PM (1.30pm - 4.30pm) brunch followed by workshops
Tickets strictly limited so book early to avoid disappointment.

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KARA O'REILLY

Why there is never a dull day in the world of interiors in London

I love London. I love its variety; its villages; its character; its citizens; its history. I celebrate the fact it is so cosmopolitan – it's a city built on centuries of economic migrants, both from the rest of Britain and overseas, who have all contributed to its makeup and made it a richer place to live. I love the multiplicity of voices wherever you go, from the supermarket queue to Selfridges food hall.

But one of the key reasons that I love London so much is that it is a city full of surprises. It's a place where you can live a lifetime and still stumble upon somewhere or something new, unexpected or remarkable.

Spontaneously look up and you will spot an interesting architectural detail on a building you might have walked past for years without previously noticing. Take a shortcut and you will no doubt chance upon a new café or shop. Re-visit an area you haven't been for a while and you will notice how it has evolved since your last trip there.

One of these recent happy discoveries was the jewel box showroom of the rather lovely furniture brand Sé. It's on the part of the Fulham Road that has some well-established antiques dealers, and is in the space that previously housed pioneering design-art gallerist, David Gill, and interior designer Francis Sultana – not a bad spot.

I first encountered Sé when it launched its much-talked-about collection by Spanish superstar designer Jaime Hayon at the Salone del Mobile in Milan some years back. Founded ten years ago by Pavlo Schtakleff, its *raison d'être* is to collaborate with key design names to create 'couture-like' pieces that have more than a whiff of old-school glamour about them, as well as having its feet firmly in the contemporary design world.

Its most recent collaborator has been the Slovenian interior designer, Nika Zupanc, who has designed the kind of elegant, polished, curvaceous pieces that exemplify the Sé look: a bit Hollywood hey day meets a dose of Art Deco.

This is a luxury brand that's all about longevity, thanks to the quality of its materials and finishes – think marble, brass, velvet, walnut – as well as Schtakleff's vision of creating the kinds of stand-out pieces that add personality to a space, without overwhelming it.

While based in London, the brand is genuinely pan-European, using designers and manufacturers based across the continent. Long may the melting pot that is this wonderful city continue to be home to this kind of global creativity. **r**



Sé's elegant furniture is designed to stand the test of time



Graham
Harris

WELL ROUNDED APPROACH

How did you come to launch the company back in the early 1990s?

The name SHH comes from our surnames – Spence, Harris, Hogan. I had met Neil Hogan many years earlier when I was studying for my Part 1 Architecture Degree at Birmingham University in 1982. Neil was from an Industrial Design background, but was studying Graphics and Communications in Perry Barr. We became friends and I spent a lot of time over at his Design College honing my skills in the art of visual communication for architectural design presentations at the school of architecture, which in those days involved back lit box projections, letterset, rotoring pens and good old fashioned drawing boards!

We entered several design competitions and won our first design award and publication in 1984 with a scheme sponsored by Birmingham City Council for the conversion and pedestrianisation of John Bright Street in Birmingham City Centre.

It was a difficult time back then and the country was in the midst of an economic recession, interest rates were rocketing, residential properties were in negative equity and developers found themselves working in very difficult market

*Graham Harris,
Managing Director
of SHH Architecture
& Interior Design,
explains how they
came to be a jack
of all trades*

Words MARK KEBBLE





SHH projects in St John's Wood, above, and Hampstead, below left

conditions. Projects were put on hold ‘indefinitely’ or ‘canned’ and this had a massive impact on the Architectural Industry as a whole, with Practices struggling to survive and huge swaths of redundancies followed.

During this turbulent period, having obtained my architectural qualifications, I returned from a year’s sabbatical in Australia and found employment at DEGW and then subsequently at SBT (Scott Brownrigg). It was here that I met one of my business partners, David Spence, the Project Architect working on Manchester Airport. I was made redundant in 1992 for a second time in my career and decided that it was time to ‘go it alone’.

We hatched a plan whilst sitting in my flat in West Hampstead and came up with the idea of combining Architecture/Interiors and Graphic Design based on a similar model to Fitch Design. Neil joined me in the summer of 1992 and David followed. The rest as they say is history.

What would you say your ethos was back then – and has that changed over the years?

It was really important to us that each project should have a ‘Design



Narrative’. Without that, the building simply lacked any kind of soul. Also, for us to pick up briefs that enabled us to design and produce really great buildings that we could all be proud of!

How has the design industry evolved in the two decades you have been in operation?

Well technology has certainly played a significant role. In the first instance our Graphics business almost collapsed overnight with the introduction of DTP (desk top publishing). On the architectural and interiors side the drawing boards all vanished within the space of five years and were replaced with Apple Macs. We opted for a new software system called Archicad. It was explained to us at the time that Archicad reads a ‘brick as a brick’ whereas ➤



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Auto-Cad reads a brick ‘as a thousand lines’. We are now the largest users in London of Archicad with over 40 stations. The ability to model spaces and buildings quickly has helped us communicate with our clients in an entirely different way. With virtual modelling on its way this will open up a whole new world.

Did you originally start out to cover a diverse range of projects from residential to hospitality, or did one follow the other?

Each director has a different skill set. David had a passion for Residential and Housing and Neil was interested in Hospitality. I happen to straddle both camps, with an interest in planning, housing and leisure, so there was a natural split in the practice to cover a diverse range of design briefs.

There wasn’t any strategic plan as such, we just needed to secure work for the practice so that we could survive. There was a time during the dot com revolution when we were involved with some very cool open plan studio/office fit out projects for several large American corporations. We also explored the hospitality sector and started specialising in F&B and Arena design.

Has hospitality and the importance of good design one thing that has become more important over the years?

Yes, it’s a fast and furious business



and it’s the hospitality briefs that require quick response from the commercial team in the studio, and also these projects often get realised a lot quicker so the team get to see and appreciate the results a lot faster than the residential projects that can last three to four years. It is important for all of us as designers to keep ahead of the curve so that we are ‘leading not following’.

What are the stand out hospitality projects you have worked on to date and why?

We were very proud of the London Zoo café project as this was our first public building. We were also working in a place that has some really iconic structures designed

by many world renowned architects. We are currently working with Wimbledon, which is another iconic venue.

How do you approach your residential projects?

We approach all our projects in the same way although every brief is different. Design is the key and listening carefully to the client brief and interpreting what in essence they are looking for. We have always prided ourselves on designing ‘inside out’, it is absolutely fundamental that the building works both on plan and on section, that the spaces flow and ultimately that the owners love the finished project.

Again, what have been stand out residential projects and why?

Our design and build of Park Place has certainly generated a lot of interest on our social media channels. It is one of our smallest projects in the studio, but a real architectural gem. It’s a new build contemporary home in the heart of St James’s/Mayfair. The black brick façade respects the context of the street but challenges convention. We design a lot of interesting, luxury projects with bespoke aspects, but need to be discreet to ensure client privacy. **r**

The Chester Terrace project featured on this page, a stunning development in Regent’s Park



Find out more by visiting
shh.co.uk

As well as stunning design, the property is ideal for entertaining





Beau OF BELGRAVIA

For quintessential London living, you can't beat the prestige and peacefulness of Eaton Terrace

Words MARK KEBBLE

We are rather proud of the fact that this part of London is blessed with a wealth of things to do and see. Although I am not a fan of the word ‘vibe’, Belgravia certainly has a buzzy one – but Eaton Terrace, although a key part of the area, stands alone.

‘This part of the street is very quiet,’ whispers Joseph Divito, Operations Director at Foxtons Sloane Square. ‘That is such a rarity in a Prime Central London location – and yet, this house is only moments away from Sloane

Square and Knightsbridge, offering the best of both worlds.’

The house in question is this truly resplendent four bedroom property set out over six floors. To take full advantage of that peace and quiet, its many outside features certainly impress. ‘The garden really is a fantastic space,’ Divito agrees. ‘It faces south-west, which means it can be enjoyed into the evening too. It’s such a peaceful place to be – a perfect setting for those relaxed summer weekend afternoons or a glass of wine after work, enjoying the sunset.’

Head to what’s referred to as the second reception room and you come across a balcony feature. ‘The floor-to-ceiling windows from the second reception room lead to that. The balcony overlooks the garden, which is very special,’ Divito enthuses. ‘The option of stepping out from the first floor reception for a breath of fresh air and admiring the serenity of the garden is yet another touch of luxury that the property offers.’

The property feels very light and airy throughout, no doubt helped by the easy access to



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outdoors. ‘The glass doors leading onto the garden add a real wow factor to the house and make the garden feel like an extension of the house,’ Divito adds. ‘It almost feels like another luxurious room. Despite every room in the property being decorated in slightly different styles, there is no obvious contrast or contradiction, so there is a nice inside/outside flow to the house.’

It’s not like the property needs yet another luxurious room. The reception rooms are all eye-catching in their own way. ‘The four reception rooms all vary in style and purpose, from formal to relaxed, but I would describe the style of all of them as modern luxury with a timeless classic touch,’ Divito says. ‘The first reception room is a bit more formal, perhaps where guests would gather for an official dinner party, while the second reception room is more like a luxurious snug, for relaxed evenings with close friends and family.’

Perfect for those get togethers, the kitchen is arguably the most modern aspect of the home. ‘It’s fitted with luxury Miele appliances and marble surfaces, with plenty of storage space, which is essential to preserve that effortless, minimalist contemporary style.

The kitchen leads onto the dining room through an arch, which makes it feel like a separate room while in effect being open plan.’

With all that entertaining, you are going to need a getaway to rest your weary head, which is why the four poster bed pictured below

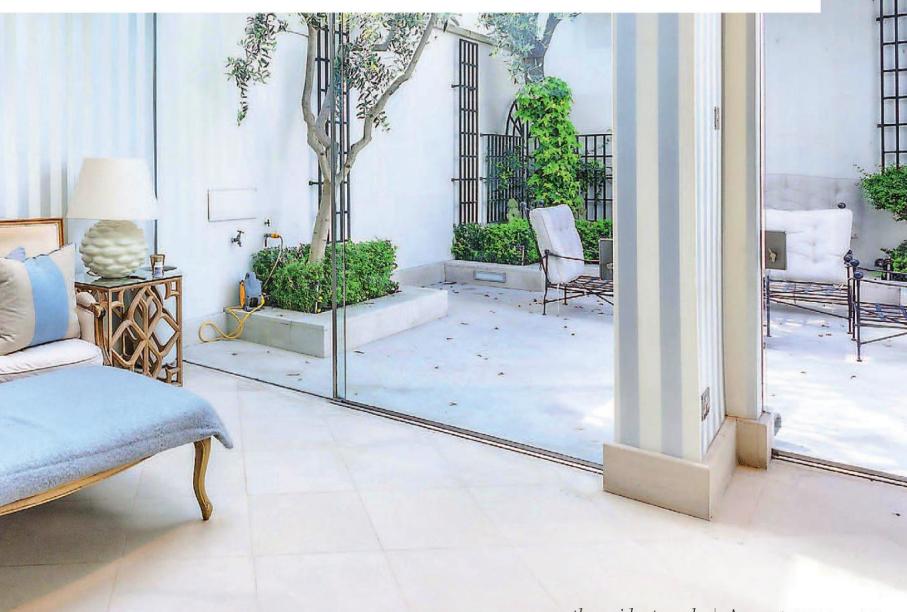
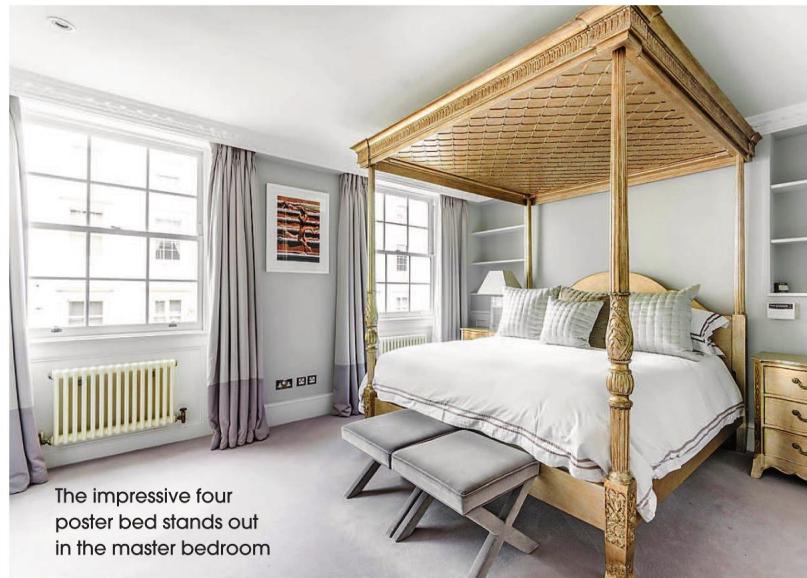
I would describe it as modern luxury with a timeless classic touch

really stands out. ‘Three of the bedrooms are decorated in a minimalist style, but the master bedroom is really distinguished thanks to that four poster bed,’ Divito wholeheartedly agrees. ‘All of the main bedrooms have en-suite bathrooms and one has a

fitted walk-in wardrobe, making it perfect for a family that likes to entertain and have guests or grown children staying over.’

The entertainment factor is one aspect that really appeals to Divito, but essentially the property – indoors and out – is the sum of its parts. ‘I love the seamless layout of the lower ground floor,’ he concludes, ‘where the kitchen opens on to the dining room, through to the reception area and then out to the garden in such an effortless, flowing design.’ Make this property, then, another world within a world. **T**

Eaton Terrace, SW1W, is available to buy at £7,500,000 with Foxtons Sloane Square. To find out more, please call 020 7591 9000 or visit foxtons.co.uk



MADE in BRITAIN

A bit chic, a bit shabby, somewhat colourful and a whole lot quirky... there are nearly as many classic British interior looks as there are inhabitants of this island

Story KARA O'REILLY

ON THE TILES

There's been a resurgence in the use of both coloured and patterned tiling in bathrooms and kitchens of late. Give the look longevity by selecting classic tile shapes and muted shades.

Retro Metro wall tiles in Green Park, £79 per sq m; Retro Metro skirting tiles, £9.95 each; Boulangerie ceramic tiles in Remi, £75 per sq m; Versailles enameled cast-iron bath in Top Hat, £1,975; Fitzrovia basin and pedestal, £300, all firedearth.com





Right, from top to bottom

COOL COMFORT

A timeless palette of neutrals; squidgy, sink-into sofas and plenty of surfaces – from consoles to coffee tables – on which to display treasured possessions: this is the sophisticated urban take on classic country house chic. Brooks low-back 3-seater sofa, £2,425; Airadee mirrors, £845 each; Versailles nested consoles, £1,185 each; Wistow coffee table, £1,195; Chaucer floor lamp, £365, all from oka.com

MODERN HERITAGE

Take a traditional style pattern, update it for the 21st century with unexpected motifs and colours, and you have the new-gen of British wallpaper designs in a nutshell.

Lucky Charms wallpaper, £81 per 10m roll, barnebygates.com

SOMETHING OLD, SOMETHING NEW

Forget all those minimalist, sleek, high tech designs. Some of the chicest current kitchen looks are based on the sort of cabinetry you would spot in a National Trust property. Think framed doors, butcher's blocks and wooden dressers...

Bespoke kitchen, from £60,000, plainenglishdesign.co.uk



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Anti clockwise from top left

BRIGHT IDEAS

Don't be cautious of colour – it brings a joie de vivre to your surroundings and instantly adds impact to a room. Look to nature to be inspired by unexpected colour combos such as bold greens and peony pinks.

Highlight stripe in Leather; Walls in Pea Green; Skirting and Panelling in Obsidian Green; from £42 for 2.5 litres absolute matt emulsion, and £59 for 2.5 litres intelligent eggshell, all littlegreene.com

ALL IN THE DETAILS

Historic paint colours are still very much in Vogue, with Farrow & Ball leading the pack. Pair complementary hues – in this case, soft greys – using one to pick out any interesting architectural details in a space, from cornicing to columns.

Peignoir and Worsted estate emulsion, from £43.50 per 2.5 litres, and estate eggshell, from £60 per 2.5 litres, all farrow-ball.com

NEW VINTAGE

The current crop of contemporary furniture companies make more than a passing nod to classic pieces for inspiration. One of the nicest revivals of recent years has been the cocktail chair, particularly when it is used to introduce a pop of bold colour into a room scheme.

Calvin armchair in mustard yellow velvet and linen, £399, atkinandthyme.co.uk



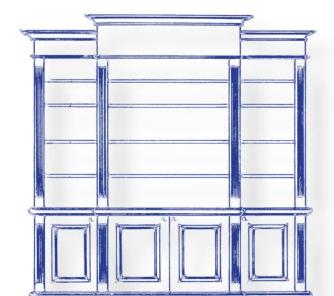


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ROOM TO MANOEUVRE

The revival of feature piece upholstered beds has the additional benefit of allowing some flexibility as to where they can be positioned in a bedroom – whether in front of a window or completely freestanding – in the process freeing up wall space for essential storage and display purposes.

Churchill tweed bed, from £8,050, andsotobed.co.uk

OBJECT LESSONS

Be inspired by historic collections for ways of displaying your favourite bits and pieces. This is one of those cases when more is more – whether it's a cluster of vessels in tonal colours, or wall-filling lines of framed engravings.

Umbra hand-knotted Tibetan wool rug by Paul Smith, from £940 per sq m, therugcompany.com

LUXE ADDITIONS

The traditional utility rooms such as walk-in larders, boot rooms and libraries are all making a reappearance in interior schemes. This time round they are upgraded in bespoke designs and luxe finishes.

Bespoke pantry made from Longford cabinetry, kitchens from £40,000, humphreymunson.co.uk r



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At Delcor only the best quality materials are selected and their work is checked meticulously at every stage, from design to delivery. That's why they can happily guarantee all their frames for 50 years.

They have worked with various different clients in the UK from Cambridge University Library to The National Trust, and all over the world from a luxury suite in Dubai to a villa in the south of France. They can deliver to any UK address and to any overseas location worldwide.

They are proud to now be taking the years of expertise and turning their hands to a new range of beautifully crafted beds. Along with the quality and exquisite design you can expect from Delcor, they have partnered with one of the leading mattress providers in Britain – so you can be sure to find the bed you've been dreaming of. **I**

Showrooms at Kings Road, London, and in Northumberland, Lincolnshire and Cheshire. For more information call 0191 237 1303 or visit www.delcor.co.uk



The bespoke approach

We spoke to Andy McCarron, MD of McCarron & Co, who are designers and makers of fine, bespoke furniture

Can you tell us about the origins of McCarron & Co?
Myself and six colleagues formed McCarron & Co in 2009. We had previously worked together for more than 20 years at Mark Wilkinson Furniture where we held various roles as Senior Managers or Directors. Each partner was chosen to ensure there was complete accountability in every department of the process, from product design, sales, manufacturing, installation and after-sales. Product wise we wanted to fuse traditional design and techniques such as veneering and marquetry with a contemporary aesthetic, which would set us apart from other companies in this market.

We opened our first showroom in Bromham, Wiltshire, in 2010, which is where our workshop is, our second in Chelsea almost four years ago, and then last year we opened a showroom in Notting Hill. It has certainly been an exciting time!

When you launched, was there a particular ethos behind what you did?

Having worked in the luxury end of furniture design and manufacturing all my life I knew that creating the correct ethos was essential for the future success of McCarron & Co – just working hard was not going to be enough! We broke down every process starting with design, production, polishing, installation and service, and by re-engineering all these processes for the better it created an ethos that embraces change and evolution with the foundation of traditional values being the starting point.

Has the ethos changed over time?

Our success to date has just reinforced that our ethos must be continually embraced. We remain agile, which has ensured that our design and service is second to none. As quite a large percentage of our business comes from the interior design and architecture

world, having this flexibility really makes a difference as we are able to translate their ideas and concepts into beautifully considered projects.

How important is it to you that you have your Wiltshire workshop?

It is of paramount importance, as we have control of all the production aspects of our clients' projects, which enables us to deliver the exceptionally high level of service our clients expect. By having a team of such highly skilled craftsmen at the workshop we can also experiment with new techniques,



materials and finishing, which would not be possible if we didn't have the workshop here. It also means that we offer our clients the option to visit so they can either view furniture being made prior to a commission or they can visit to see their furniture being made prior to install, which they all seem to enjoy!

How does the design process from start to finish work?

As we are totally bespoke, the first step will often be a detailed brief-taking meeting with the client or interior designer/architect to get an in-depth



Every project is bespoke, which is where their workshop really comes into its own



McCarron & Co have become renowned for their kitchens

understanding of their vision and what they would like to achieve. In order to successfully interpret the needs of the client the designers listen carefully and ask lots of questions, taking into account their lifestyle and any factors that may influence the design. From this point onwards we can begin to narrow down the best materials, finishes and functionality to suit the specific needs and that the client's vision is realised by our craftsmen. Whether it is a single item for one room in the home or a complete 'whole house' project including a wine room, library, dressing rooms and

kitchens, the principles for the design process will be the same.

What has been in demand in 2017 so far?

Having unique furniture is very much the demand as clients really do not want to attend a dinner party and see their own furniture in a friend's home! Just adding their own accent, maybe from a metal, leather or fabric makes all the difference when creating a bespoke and personalised piece of furniture.

Do you have any special launches to come?

Yes, we are currently in the process of

designing a dining area for our showroom in Notting Hill, which I am really excited about! **R**

McCarron & Co have two London showrooms:

**84 Fulham Road, Chelsea SW3 6HR;
020 7584 5736**

102 Westbourne Grove Notting Hill W2 5RU; 020 7243 2315

**Wiltshire showroom and workshop:
Clackersbrook Farm, 46 The Common,
Bromham, Wiltshire SN15 2JJ;
01380 859299;**

mccarronandco.com



Russell Pinch
Joyce cabinet, £6,970,
pinchdesign.com



Benjamin Hubert Two tone vase
(Design 1) for Bitossi Ceramiche,
£372, amara.com



Sue Timney
Alphabet cushion, £110,
therugcompany.com



Charlene Mullen
London Calling cushion, £120,
charlenemullen.com



Tom Dixon
Wingback
chair, from
£3,500,
tomdixon.net



Bethan Gray
Dhow coffee table, £2,700,
bethangray.com



Lucy Kurrein
Aponi bureau in walnut,
£995, joinandjointed.com



Sebastian Cox
Bayleaf settle, £3,900,
sebastiancox.co.uk



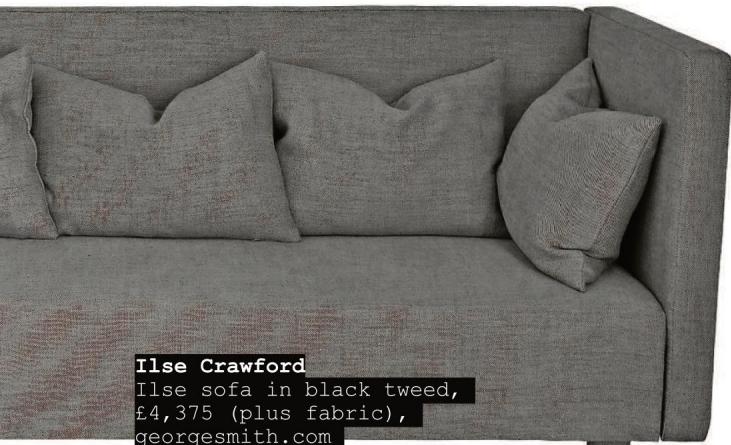
Eleanor Pritchard
Cinta rug in navy, from £425,
casefurniture.com



Tomoko Azumi
Spin table in walnut
and grey, £600,
markproduct.com



Doshi Levien
Open Home
Ballet oval side
table, £399,
johnlewis.com

**Ilse Crawford**

Ilse sofa in black tweed, £4,375 (plus fabric), georgesmith.com

Terence Woodgate
Solid Nero Marquina marble pendant, £197, terencewoodgate.com



Max Lamb
Crockery black basalt bowl for 1882 Ltd, £35, heals.com



Tori Murphy
Chevy lambswool throw, £180, torimurphy.com

Sebastian Wrong
Spun light in mud, from £596, flos.com

MODERN MASTERS

There's a plethora of contemporary design talent working in the UK. Here we celebrate some of the best – from the instantly iconic to the lesser known

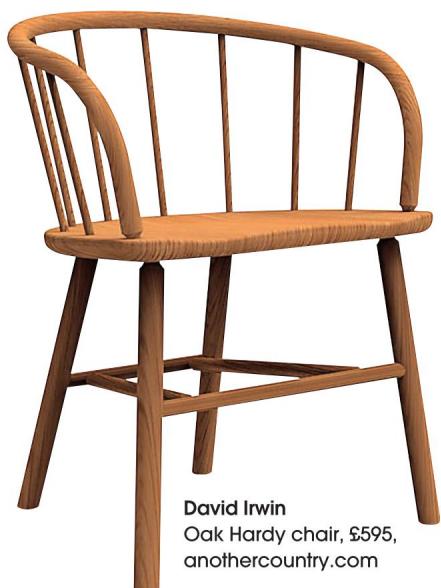
Story KARA O'REILLY



Michael Anastassiades
IC F1 floor lamp in brass for Flos, £489, conranshop.co.uk



Matthew Hilton
Balzac armchair and ottoman in utah russet, £3,890, scp.co.uk



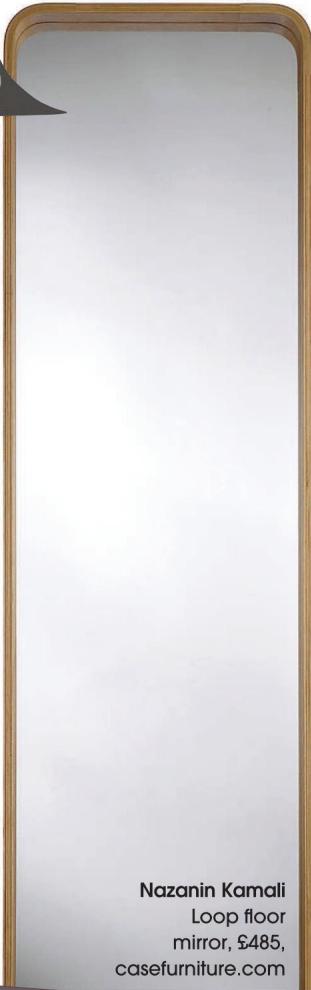
David Irwin
Oak Hardy chair, £595, anothercountry.com



Richard Brendon
Fluted decanter, £235, richardbrendon.com



Michael Marriott
Sled sideboard, £2,034, verygoodandproper.co.uk



Nazanin Kamali
Loop floor mirror, £485, casefurniture.com



Steven Owens
Wedmore extending
dining table, from £5,295,
benchmarkfurniture.com



Barber & Osgerby
Tip Ton chairs, £219
each, vitra.com



Reiko Kaneko
Terracotta pitcher,
£65, reikokaneko.co.uk



Lee Broom
Crystal bulb
pendant,
from £230,
leebroom.com



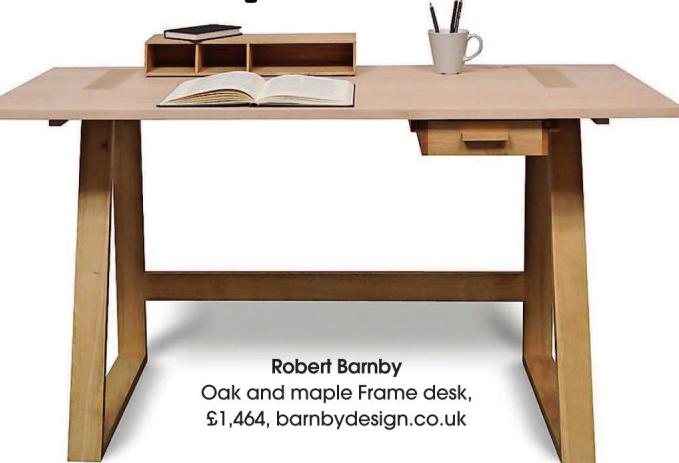
Kay + Stemmer
Agnes medium shelving in walnut,
£640, scp.co.uk



Anthony Dickens
Origami table for
Innermost, £1,139,
heals.com



Ron Arad
Double Soft Big Easy for
Moroso, £8,736, moroso.it



Robert Barnby
Oak and maple Frame desk,
£1,464, barnbydesign.co.uk



Terence Conran
Counter Balance alcove
shelving, from £699,
contentbyterenceconran.com



Tom Raffield
Gwelsen twisted screen in
oak, £1,695, tomraffield.com



Jasper Morrison
Low Pad chair for
Cappellini, from £890,
twentytwentyone.com

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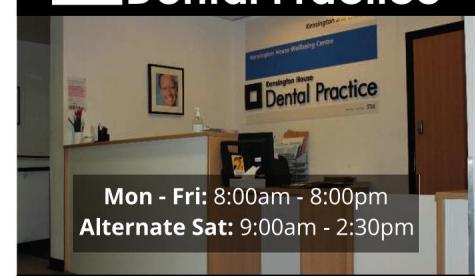
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HOMES INSIDER

Kara O'Reilly reveals the latest in interiors

Glass act
Serve your summer tipples in the best of the best. The latest incarnation from vinophile glassware specialists Riedel is this stemless wine glass. Sturdy, easy to store and with a spot of colour to jolly up even the greyest of summer days.

Happy O series, £85 for set of 4 mixed colours; riedel.co.uk

KARA'S choice



Person of interest

DONNA WILSON

Sometimes it's just nice to select items for your home that have real warmth and wit about them. Donna Wilson's designs have that in spades. Her uplifting naïf illustrations of nature and people adorn everything from ceramics to bedding and are a cheerful antidote to some more, ahem, po-faced designer creations.

Prices from £11.50; donnawilson.com

HOT OFF THE PRESS

Perfect Pinch

One of my absolute favourite furniture designers, Russell Pinch, has just opened a retail store. Situated off Pimlico Road, in an area that is renowned for its interior showrooms, it's the perfect location to showcase his elegant, beautifully made, future heirloom pieces. If you are seeking storage, seating and more with a modern classic aesthetic, skilfully crafted finishes and bespoke options, it should be your first port of call.

46 Bourne Street SW1W 8JD; pinchdesign.com



Mini Trend
Posh palm lights



Shake it up
Crafted in pale oak, Feather & Black's Ercol Teramo range is inspired by Shaker design and strikes the perfect balance of modern and relaxed. My pick of the range is the Teramo bedstead, which is currently a steal in their summer sale. featherandblack.com



Golden Palm side lamp, £450, grahamandgreen.co.uk



Palm Tree floor light, £540, rockettstgeorge.co

Paradise Palm floor lamp, £325, houseoffraser.co.uk



The Source is coming to life for *2 days only!*

9th - 10th September 2017 at The Hoxton, Holborn

An immersive showcase of creative event brands.

Saturday 9th September 2017

Come and engage with a collection of creative event brands that can turn all your event planning dreams into a reality.

The day promises to be interesting and interactive, complete with mini hands-on workshops, demos, roving entertainment and plenty of event inspiration.

- Live Entertainment & Music
- A selection of Live Demos and Immersive Experiences including Cake Decorating, Crafts, Roving Artists & Modern Calligraphy
- Cocktail Mixology
- Cosmetic Entertainment
- Party Prep Mini Makeovers
- Expert Speakers from the Event Industry

Whether you are a bride and groom to be, someone who loves entertaining, planning a special occasion or just because... we would love you to join us and experience our creative brands first hand.

Sunday 10th September 2017

WORKSHOPS AND BRUNCH

Come along and join The Source Live, as we offer you the opportunity to experience a combination of live interactive workshops and brunch.

The day will include the chance to experience 2 x 1 hour workshops of your choice as well as brunch served in the Hubbard & Bell restaurant at the Hoxton.

We are working with the brilliant teams at:

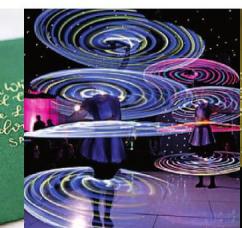
- Flower Bouquet Workshop - Wild Wood London
- Healthy Juicing Cocktail Mixology - Vits + Kicks
- Sweetie Cakes - Georgia's Cakes
- Gingerbread Favor Boxes - Maid Of Gingerbread

Please select either:

AM (11am - 2pm) workshops followed by brunch or
PM (1.30pm - 4.30pm) brunch followed by workshops
Tickets strictly limited so book early to avoid disappointment.

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PROPERTY

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PAVING THE WAY

A stunning Chelsea home, both inside and out

This is an elegant five bedroom house located in a quiet cul-de-sac just off the Fulham Road. The property has been refurbished throughout and offers state of the art technology and luxurious interior design with bright open plan living space. To the rear of the house is a large garden with a paved seating area and al fresco dining area.

Netherton Grove, SW10, is on the market for £6,500,000 with Savills Chelsea; 020 7578 9005



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renting or letting, head for our
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of a T.Rex's tail.

Netherton Grove, SW10

£6,500,000

Featured on the cover, Netherton Grove is a quiet cul-de-sac situated just off the popular section of the Fulham Road known as 'The Beach', renowned for its fashionable shops, bars and restaurants, and close to the Chelsea and Westminster hospital. There are fantastic transport links, with South Kensington, Earl's Court, West Brompton and Fulham Broadway tube stations within walking distance, and multiple bus routes from the Fulham Road and King's Road.

This truly exceptional five bedroom house is 23ft wide and benefits from double off-street parking, a stunning same level garden, an abundance of natural light and 3,185 sq ft of living space, all above ground. The best quality materials, state of the art technology and luxurious and fresh interior design have all come together to create a fantastic Chelsea family home.

Savills Chelsea, 020 7578 9005



PROPERTY NEWS

Prime Central London's finest developments



Leading the way

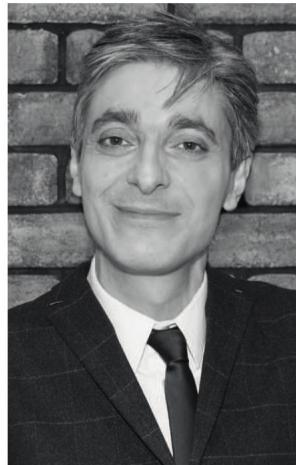
The W1 London, the eagerly anticipated boutique development on Marylebone High Street, has been unveiled by Sir Peter Wood's W-One International. Comprising 19 apartments – including three penthouses and five contemporary townhouses – the scheme will exude character and individuality, aided by the retention of the original 1930's heritage façade to embrace Marylebone's identity of individuality rather than conformity. Designed by Dixon Jones Architects the development transforms the former BBC radio headquarters and will comprise a mix of two and three bedroom apartments, as well as a four bedroom penthouse with separate studio apartment and two three-bedroom lateral sub penthouses. The four bed townhouses will be accessed via the secluded Beaumont Mews. thew1london.com



In the Haus

Boutique estate agency Haus Properties, which specialises in Fulham and west London, has opened a new office in Chelsea – tapping into a property market with enduring domestic and global appeal. The new office, situated at 348 Fulham Road, complements the two existing Fulham offices on Wandsworth Bridge Road and Munster Road, where Haus Properties has built a reputation for selling and letting design-led homes and developments, with exceptional levels of customer service. Head of Haus Properties Amin Omidi (right) and the experienced team will offer a full spectrum of tailored services, including sales, lettings and land and new homes consultancy, as well as an end-to-end acquisition and interior design service where required.

348 Fulham Road SW10 9UH; 020 8742 7577;
hausproperties.co.uk



You'll beg ladyousaurus.

In its prime

Momentum in the Super Prime Rental market in Prime Central London is growing rapidly with a new breed of tenant driving demand, attracted to the likes of The Penthouse, Mayfair House, which has a guide price of £35,000 per week. A landmark development of super prime apartments to let, this exclusive collection of four new residences combine optimal space, bespoke design and outstanding quality materials.

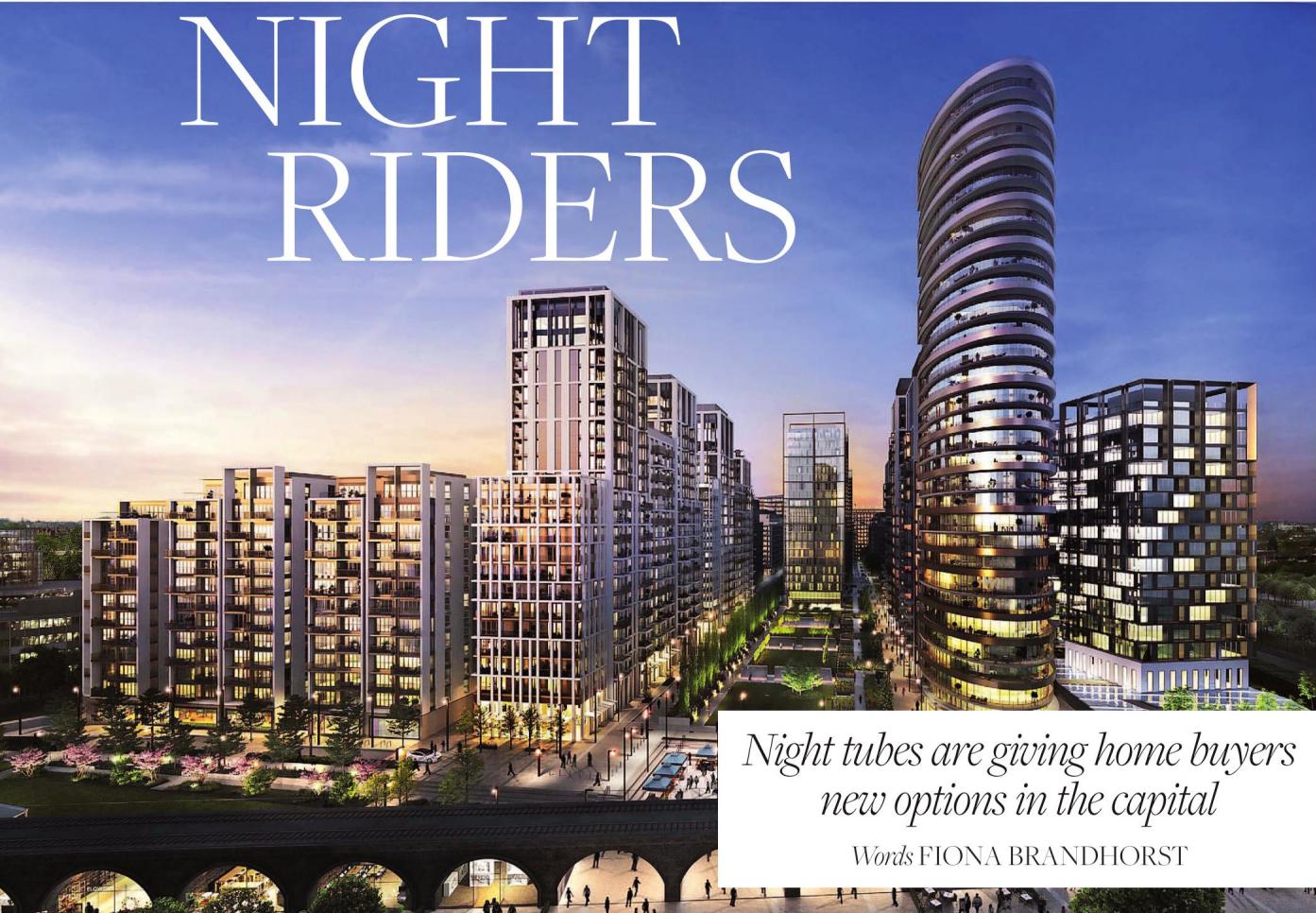
See more at savills.co.uk

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THE NIGHT RIDERS



Night tubes are giving home buyers new options in the capital

Words FIONA BRANDHORST

Night owls who like to party could be sitting pretty if they own a property near one of London's night tubes. Central and Victoria line tubes started running round the clock on Friday and Saturday nights a year ago this month, and according to Savills property prices started to creep up as soon as the night tube idea was mooted. Jubilee, Piccadilly and Northern line night tubes now also traverse the capital north to south, east to west, with more tubes set to go nocturnal by 2021, providing potential growth opportunities for buyers of both new and pre-owned property.

'Confidence is starting to ripple out to outer markets with those seeking an urban village or suburban lifestyle causing strong price growth in these areas,' comments Robert McLaughlin, Sales Director at KFH. Its figures showed that the average London property price was £634,891 in Q1 2017. Buyers looking for a home in an 'urban village' are likely to pay £146,517 more than the average, while 'suburban' London buyers will pay 27 per cent less. KFH is selling a spacious one bedroom converted flat over the Crown and Anchor pub just off Chiswick High Road for £499,950. It's a short walk from Turnham Green on the Piccadilly line.

On the doorstep of White City on the Central line,

design-conscious developer St James is launching a range of apartments at White City Living next month. It's a significant residential development acting as a keystone for this emerging prime west London community in Zone Two, less than 15 minutes to the West End. Prices are expected to start from £620,000 for a studio.

Hampstead Manor by Mount Anvil is in one of London's most exclusive suburbs, yet a short walk from Hampstead's all night tube. The collection of 125 one, two, three and four-bedroom apartments,





townhouses and detached residences are priced from £747,500. The four bedroom Skeel Library centerpiece has been restored as a single residence across four floors combining over a century of history and a wealth of contemporary features totaling 5,220 sq ft of living accommodation, priced at £7.95m.

A choice of Victoria or Piccadilly night tubes as well as high-speed rail routes has seen King's Cross show strong growth in recent years with values continuing to perform well against more traditional prime locations including Belgravia and Knightsbridge. The Onyx Apartments are a striking collection of 117 one, two and three-bedroom homes by Taylor Wimpey Central London, on the picturesque Regent's Canal, forming a significant addition to the area's residential landscape. Residents benefit from a 24-hour concierge service and an exclusive roof terrace on the 9th floor. Prices start from £750,000.

The first homes built to the ultra-low energy standards of Passivhaus in Zone One and close to the night tube at Southwark are the Lendlease Futurehomes at Elephant Park. Each of the 15 Victorian-style three and four bedroom townhouses has second-floor terraces or balconies overlooking private courtyards and communal landscaped gardens planted with 1,000 trees. Recent research from Savills suggests buyers are willing to pay a 4.1 per cent premium for a Victorian home in central London.

Jonathan Emery, Managing Director of Property, Europe, at Lendlease comments: 'This is an opportunity for eco-conscious consumers who want a home that reduces its impact on the environment, without compromising on comfort, design or location.' Each home has a constant supply of clean, fresh air with an advanced filtration system removing pollen, dust and smoke. Prices start from £1.4m.



Pictured clockwise from top left:
St James White City; The Onyx Apartments by Taylor Wimpey; Palfrey Place; Lendlease Futurehomes at Elephant Park; Hampstead Manor by Mount Anvil

While the Northern line often gets a bad press from commuters, its night riders are impressed. Clapham North and Stockwell tube stations are a short walk away from 330 Clapham Road, a range of apartments and houses by Notting Hill Sales. Prices start from £475,000.

House-hunters who like hedging their bets will take to Palfrey Place within walking distance of both Vauxhall and Oval Zones One and Two tubes. The 3,088 sq ft, three bedroom, three bathroom maisonette has a vast open plan kitchen/dining area plus a TV room, study and patio, for sale with Hamptons International for £1.7m. **r**

Established 1897



A one-bedroom apartment in a landmark Kensington development

Lord Kensington House, Kensington W14

- Open plan reception
- Courtyard facing balcony
- 24-hour concierge and security
- Swimming pool, spa and gym
- Cinema
- Approx. 529sq ft / 49.14sq m

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£950,000

LEASEHOLD
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EPC RATING
B

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A spacious and light six-bedroom, semi-detached, Freehold house

Elm Park Road, Chelsea SW3

- Two off street parking spaces
- Integrated garage and car port
- Ample storage throughout
- Extended for further living space
- High ceilings
- Over 3,980sq ft

GUIDE PRICE
£6,450,000

FREEHOLD

EPC RATING
D

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francis.burca@harrodsestates.com

Established 1897



Two-bedroom, two-bathroom apartment with porter

Bird Street, Marylebone W1

- Dual-aspect reception room
- Seventh floor
- Lift Access
- In the heart of the West End
- One secure parking space included
- Approx. 925sq ft / 86sq m

GUIDE PRICE
£2,100,000

LEASEHOLD
APPROXIMATELY 978 YEARS

EPC RATING
B

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andrew.brennan@harrodsestates.com



A fabulous two-bedroom apartment in a red-brick period building

Pont Street, Knightsbridge SW3

- Large double height reception and kitchen
- Second sitting / study area
- Master bedroom with en suite
- Second bedroom with en suite
- Direct lift access
- Approx. 1,219sq ft / 113.2sq m

GUIDE PRICE
£2,575,000

LEASEHOLD
APPROXIMATELY 82 YEARS

EPC RATING
C

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FLAT 3, 37 EATON PLACE SW1X



Leasehold (123 years)

£2,500,000

A superb 2nd floor apartment within an elegant part stucco-fronted period conversion in the heart of Belgravia.

- Bright Reception Room
- Poggenpohl Kitchen
- Master bedroom with En-suite and Balcony
- Second bedroom
- Shower room
- 874 Sq. Ft

ELIZABETH STREET SW1



Leasehold Approximately 82 Years

£1,785,000

A superb first and second floor two bedroom apartment situated on Elizabeth Street in the heart of Belgravia with easy access to the excellent amenities of Sloane Square and the West End.

- Reception Room with Balcony
- Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- Master Bedroom with En-Suite Bathroom
- Double Bedroom
- Family Bathroom
- Guest Cloakroom
- Private Street Entrance

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FLAT 8, 96 PARK STREET W1K



Furnished

£935 per week (fees apply)

A bright two bedroom apartment newly refurbished to a high standard with the benefit of under floor heating in the kitchen and bathrooms and situated on the third floor of a period building located in the heart of Mayfair close to Hyde Park.

- Reception/Dining
- Kitchen
- Master Bedroom with En-suite Bathroom
- Second bedroom
- Bathroom
- 809 Sq. Ft

ADMIRAL COURT, CHELSEA HARBOUR SW10



Unfurnished

£1,550 per week (fees apply)

An attractive newly refurbished three bedroom 2nd floor apartment offering light and spacious accommodation with a sunny south-easterly aspect and fabulous views over the River Thames.

- Large Reception Opening onto Balcony
- Kitchen
- 3 Bedrooms
- 3 Bathrooms
- Underground Parking
- 24 Hour Site Security & Video Entry Telephone

OnTheMarket.com

THE TAX FACTOR

Interest in the London property market remains high, but buyers need to be aware of important tax factors



Stamp duty is one of the largest hurdles that property investors and homeowners must overcome when assessing private purchases and corporate portfolios. Regardless of political instabilities and the unknown outcome of what will be years of Brexit negotiations, London and the UK is still attracting investment into residential property, ensuring prices hold firm and desirability stays high. To ensure you are making the most of your property there are a number of 'need-to-knows' of property tax, which are often the deciding factor as to whether a purchase or investment is viable.

Taxes applying to property

Most commonly associated with residential properties, SDLT is the tax on all land transactions within the UK, except Scotland. Introduced with the Finance Act 2003, all property buyers pay a tax on their property, in addition to the asking price. For a property priced between £925,001 to £1.5 million, of which there are many in London, buyers must pay 10 per cent of the value of their new

property. For any remaining amount over £1.5 million, another 12 per cent is charged.

For residential property assets that are not your home, such as buy-to-let properties, business premises, land or inherited property, Capital Gains Tax applies the moment you take ownership. This is a tax on the profit of a property asset when you sell, provided it has increased in value.

Finally, the Annual Tax on Enveloped Dwellings, or ATED, is a charge that applies to UK residential property owned by companies, collective investment schemes, or a partnership with a corporate member or members. This tax is an annual charge and only applies to property valued at £500,000 or above.

Reforms and opportunities

However, over the last 18 months, several reforms have come into play that have directly impacted all residential property portfolios. April 2016 saw significant changes to the property tax landscape, with both the 'second homes tax' and the band change to ATED introduced.

The 'second homes tax' has had wide-reaching effects outside of straightforward second homes as the policy does not just refer to the traditional vision of a second home, but encompasses asset owners right from the buy-to-let investor, to families who help their children on the property ladder. Many more people have been impacted than was initially anticipated as married couples have been included as one entity for tax purposes. For property assets held in companies, there has also been a substantial change as the tax threshold has been lowered. Companies that own residential property valued between £500,000 and £1 million must now pay an annual charge of £3,500.

The good news is that if you bought a property in the last four years, you may be able to reclaim a portion of your stamp duty fee, by seeking advice from a specialist property tax firm like Cornerstone. If you bought a property within this time, you can claim a repayment within four years of whichever is the later of the date when SDLT became due or was paid. ■

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- ✓ Have a floorplan of your property drawn up.
- ✓ Create a brochure.
- ✓ Take your property out to the widest audience possible using the best property websites available including; Rightmove, Zoopla and Prime Location.
- ✓ Ensure your property Guru accompanies each viewing.
- ✓ Relay feedback to you after each viewing.
- ✓ Give you an account to access our exclusive 'Platform YOU', which gives you real time data and analysis 24/7 specific to your local property market.
- ✓ Qualify all offers.
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- ✓ Always be honest.

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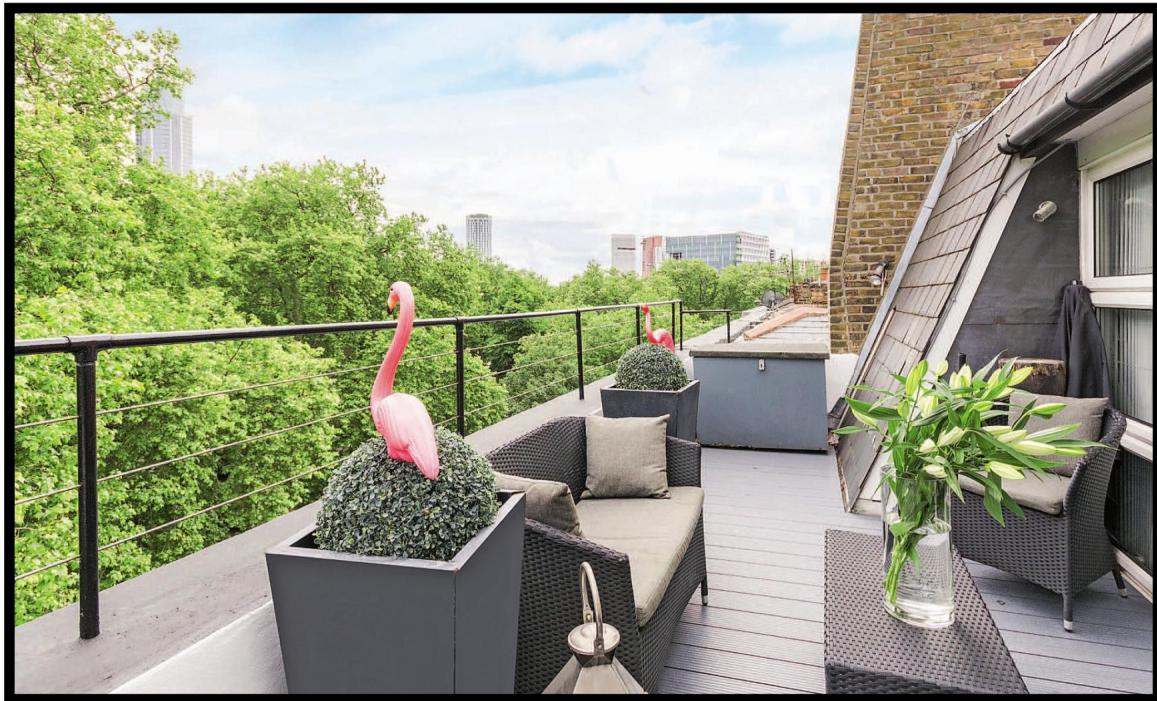
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HOT TREND

Knight Frank's Robert Oatley explains why green space remains a huge draw in this part of London

Not necessarily a new trend, but certainly a hot one in the market at the moment and as we head into the summer: apartments on garden squares always sell well. Although we are lucky enough to have some of the most beautiful public parks in the country, private green space in central London is a rarity and so the attraction of living on or near a garden square is huge.

Enjoying access to a beautiful manicured private garden, but without the hassle of the upkeep is certainly a draw, as is the impressive Regency architecture that predominantly surrounds the squares, notably the prized first floor apartments with their period proportions and best in class views of the square.

But an increasingly evident draw of living on a central London garden square seems to be the sense of community that comes with it. In many local garden squares there are regular film screenings, parties or fetes and this helps to bring the residents together.

The whole of Pimlico was developed by Thomas Cubitt (1788-1855) under a leasing system granted by the Grosvenor family on Lady Day, 1828. In the letter of agreement, Cubitt undertook to build a series of



garden squares 'to let a little of the country-side into the town'. Consequently, Pimlico has three garden squares, all of which offer the aforementioned grand architecture; Eccleston Square, Warwick Square and St. Georges Square (pictured).

Whilst the wider sales market has been more challenging recently, good apartments on the squares in Pimlico continue to sell well and hold their value.

Analysis of the last ten sales on Eccleston Square show that the average price achieved here is £1,343 per square foot, whereas on nearby Cambridge Street this average price drops to £1,198 per square foot.

The squares continue to be in high demand in the current sales market with Knight Frank having recently sold apartments on both St. Georges Square and Warwick Square, with a stunning duplex apartment available to buy on St. Georges Square and three apartments for sale in the same building on Eccleston Square. ■

Robert Oatley – Associate, Office Head Knight Frank Victoria & Westminster, 51 Victoria Street SW1H 0EU 020 3641 6006; KnightFrank.co.uk/victoria

JONATHAN ACHAMPOONG, WEDLAKE BELL

The implications of the Grenfell Tower tragedy for private lessees

Q The recent events at the Grenfell Tower have been tragic and deeply concerning. As a lessee in a privately owned 'high-rise' block, what does this mean for me? In particular, will my landlord take steps to ensure my building is safe, and will I have to bear the cost of it doing so?

A The issue of fire risk safety for external cladding has been thrown into sharp focus in recent weeks and the process of determining the factors that contributed to the Grenfell Tower disaster will undoubtedly take some time. In the meantime, prudent landlords and managers will be keen to ensure that they are fully compliant and up to date with fire risk

assessments under the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005. As the duties under the Order are extensive, there is often a cost associated

On the specific issue of external cladding, however, your landlord may decide to avail itself of the Government's offer to test the cladding to determine whether it is of limited combustibility. Many of the issues regarding cladding are complex and a raft of fire safety guidance, regulations, recommendations and practices are likely to come under scrutiny. In the months and years ahead, landlords, managers, insurers and developers will almost certainly modify their approach to fire risk in general, and cladding in particular.



Whether the cost of any investigations and/or remedial works relating to fire risk that your landlord undertakes will be recoverable from you will ultimately depend on the terms of your lease. For example, your lease may contain a 'statutory compliance' clause or a 'sweeping up' clause that could enable the landlord to claw back the costs incurred from you and the other tenants.

However, under the provisions of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1985, the cost of the works must be reasonable, and, in most cases, the works must be carried out in consultation with you. ■

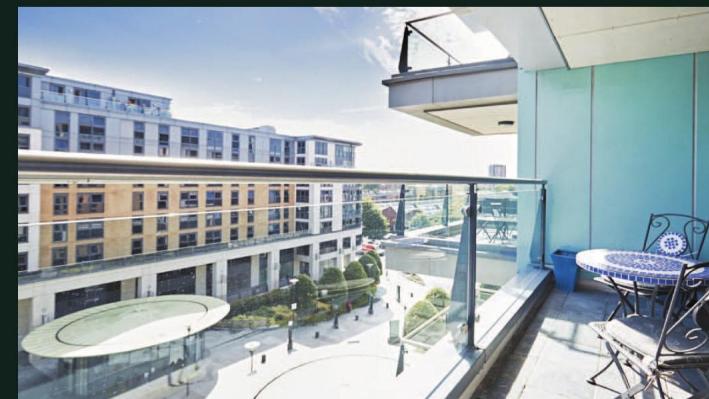
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Chelsea Vista, Imperial Wharf SW6

2 bedroom flat for sale in Imperial Wharf SW6

A very desirably located 2 bedroom 2 bathroom flat in Imperial Wharf SW6 with stunning views over the fountain and towards the park. With a wonderful west facing picture window, this flat is sunny and bright and stand out from the rest. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, reception, kitchen, balcony.

Approximately 92 sq m (990 sq ft). EPC: C

Leasehold: approximately 981 years remaining

Guide price: £1,100,000

KnightFrank.co.uk/RVR170134

KnightFrank.co.uk/riverside
riverside@knightfrank.com
020 3641 5935

@KF_SWLondon

KnightFrank.co.uk

OnTheMarket.com



Guide price: £410 per week

Winchester Street, Pimlico SW1

A beautifully refurbished apartment on the ground floor of a white stucco fronted Victorian terraced house in a prime location. Bedroom, bathroom, reception room, kitchen, private patio. Approximately 47.4 sq m (510 sq ft). EPC: D. Available furnished.

victorialettings@knightfrank.com

Office: 020 3641 6034

FOUND.

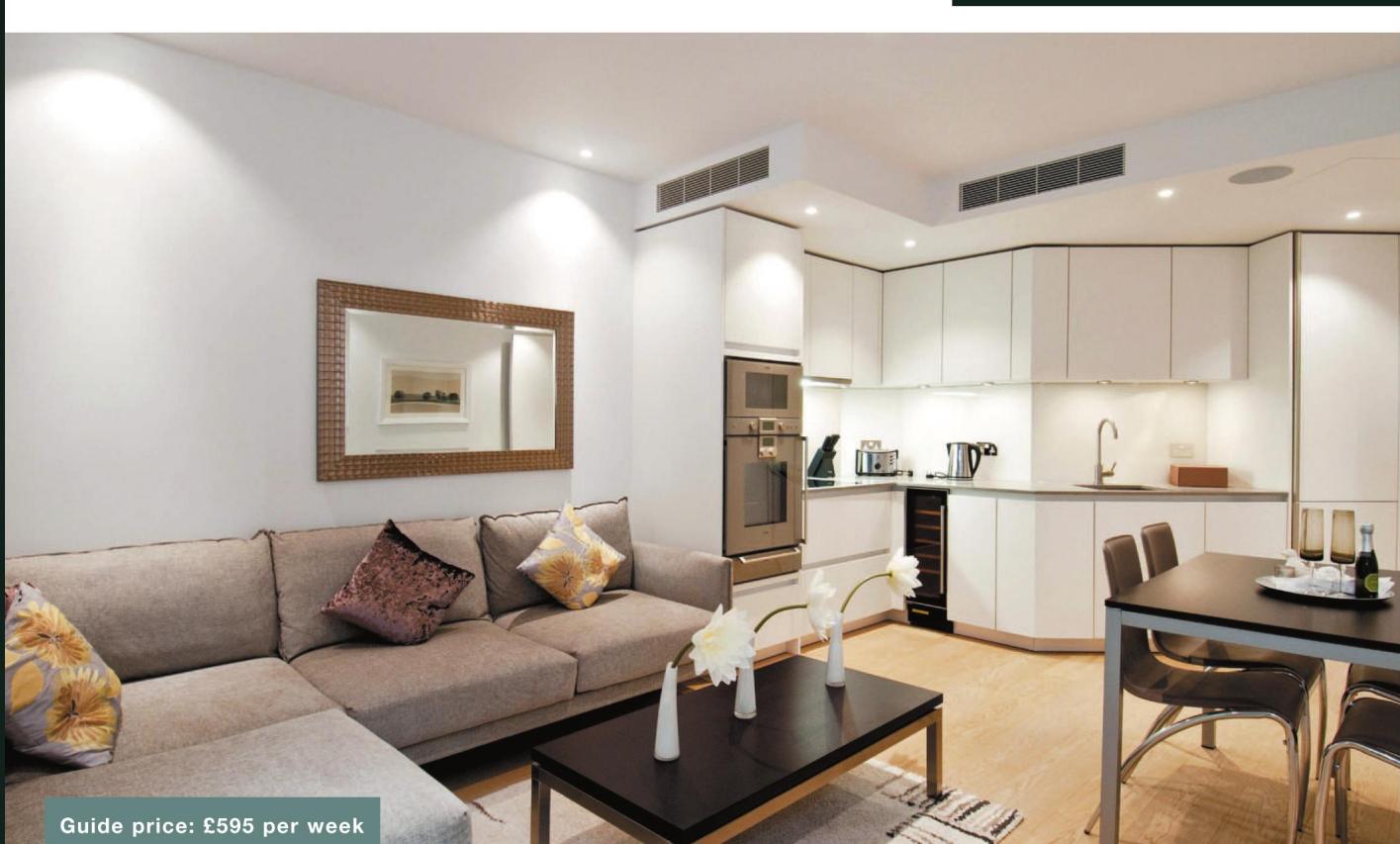
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Guide price: £595 per week

Buckingham Gate, Westminster SW1

A fantastic apartment on the first floor of a modern development. Bedroom, shower room, reception room with open plan kitchen, utility room, substantial garden.

Approximately 50 sq m (543 sq ft). EPC: B. Available furnished.

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**Ponsonby Terrace, Westminster SW1**

A fantastic family townhouse which is arranged over four floors, located on a highly sought after street. 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, kitchen, study, guest WC, wine cellar, vault storage, terrace, patio garden. EPC: C. Approximately 180.9 sq m (1,947 sq ft).
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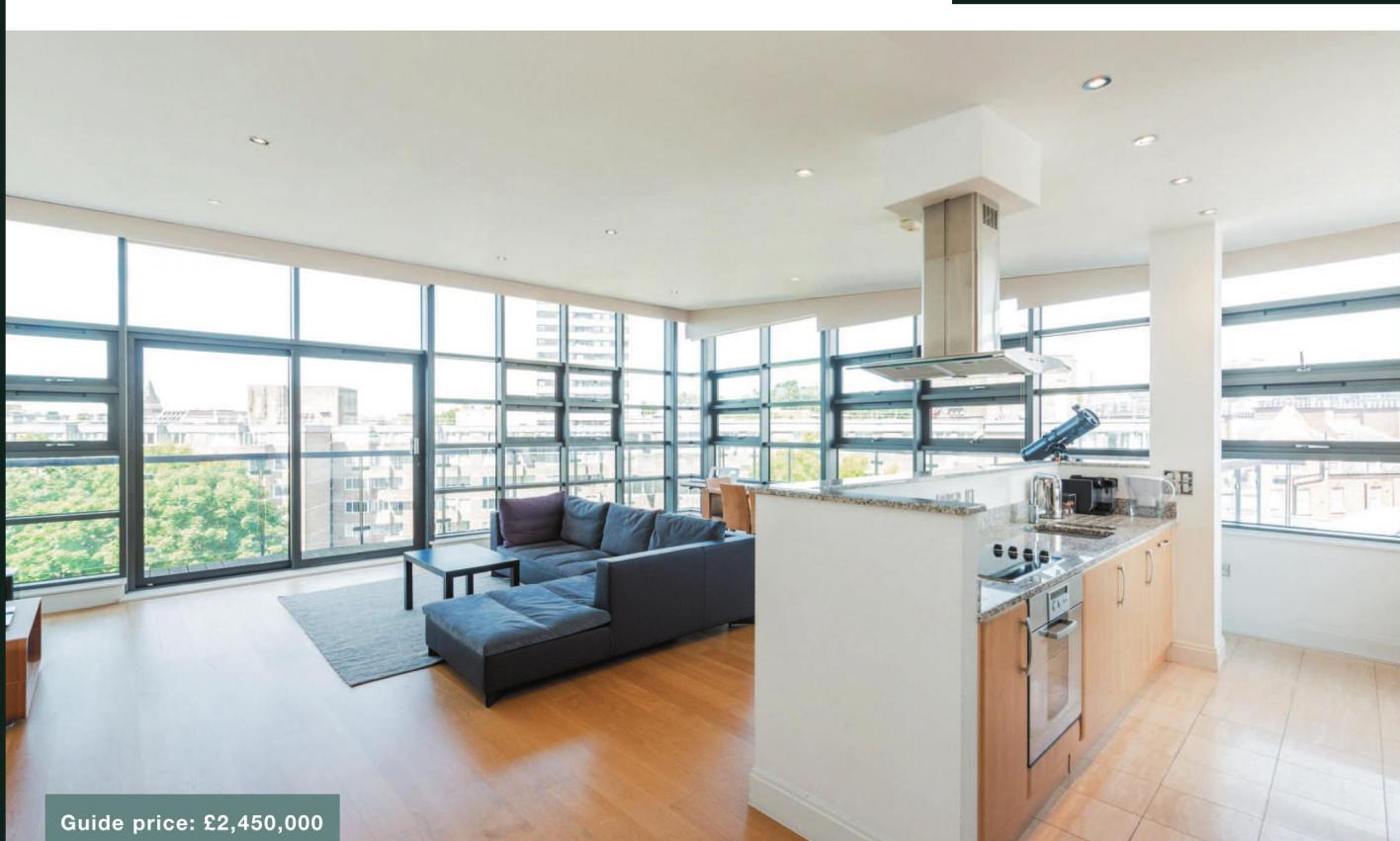
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Guide price: £2,450,000

Montaigne Close, Westminster SW1

A stunning penthouse apartment which provides spacious living accommodation, located on the sixth floor of a modern development. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, reception/dining room, kitchen, 3 balconies, 2 parking spaces, leisure facilities. EPC: D. Approximately 137.5 sq m (1,480 sq ft).
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Guide price: £3,750,000

Clapham Common North Side, Clapham SW4

An impressive Victorian home of superb proportions that has been refurbished to the highest of standards throughout, set in a commanding position opposite Clapham Common. 6 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, kitchen/dining room, study, family room, utility, 2 guest cloakrooms, garden. EPC: E. Approximately 350 sq m (3767 sq ft).

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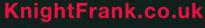
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Guide price: £2,000,000

Lesser Avenue, Clapham SW4

A substantial semi-detached Victorian house set on a tree-lined avenue in the heart of Abbeville Village. 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, eat-in kitchen, conservatory, guest cloakroom, cellar, garden, loft. EPC: E. Approximately 233.36 sq m (2512 sq ft).

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Guide price: £485 per week

Sesame Apartments, Battersea SW11

This property comprises two double bedrooms both with built in storage. The master bedroom has an en suite bathroom. There is an additional bathroom in the property as well as further storage in the main hallway of the flat. There is a large open plan reception and kitchen room backing onto a private balcony. Available furnished.

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Guide price: £550 per week

Battersea Power Station, London SW11

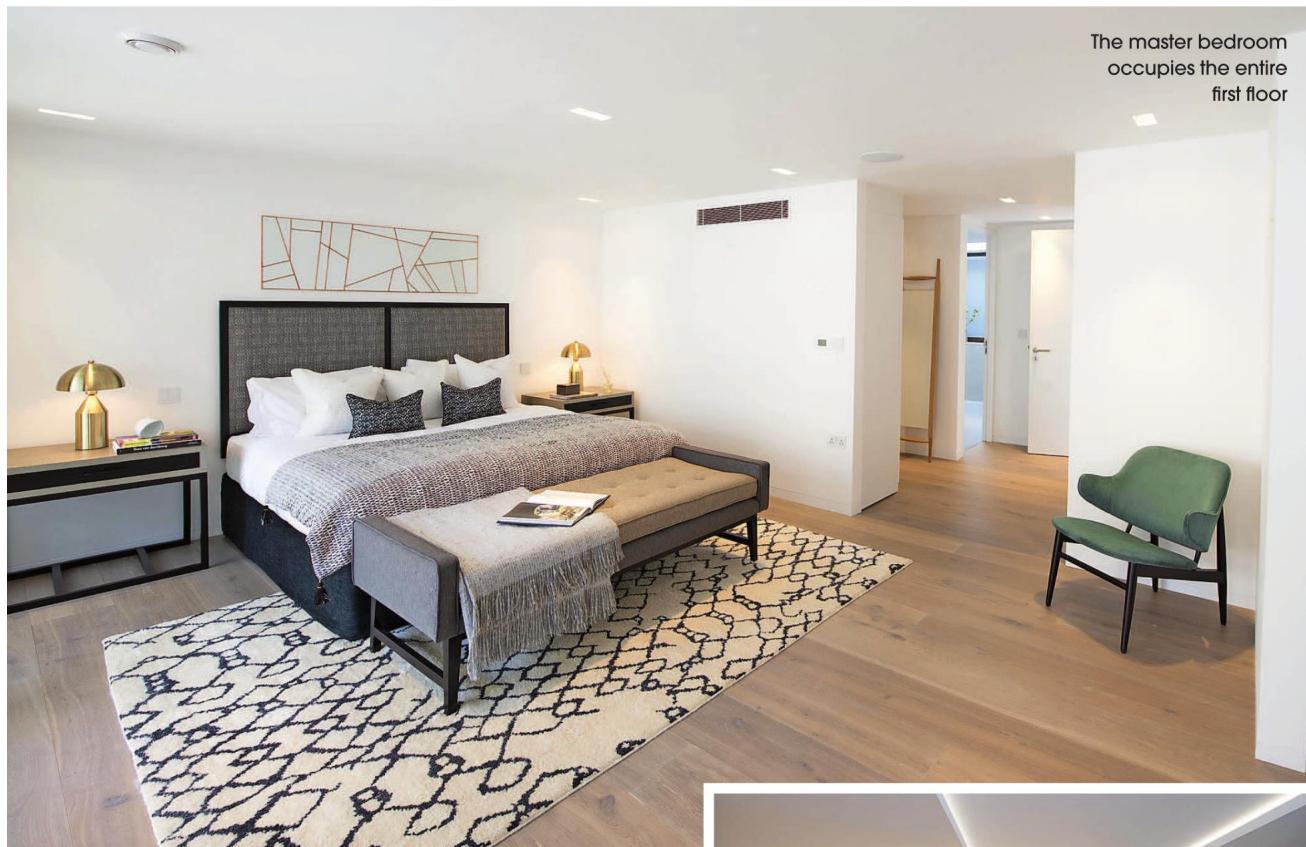
This flat has a unique open plan reception room, kitchen and dining room. The integrated kitchen is in the middle of the room dividing it up to make it feel like separate rooms. There are two balconies to the front and the back of the property. The property also comprises two bedrooms and two bathrooms. Available furnished

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MY DREAM HOME

A brand new family home in the heart of Notting Hill



WEST VILLAGE, W11



Alistair Heather, Associate Partner at Strutt & Parker Notting Hill

Why it's a great buy...

This beautifully-presented three-bedroom mews style house is one of just nine brand new houses at West Village, a contemporary new development in W11. It represents a rare chance to buy a new build family home in Notting Hill, tucked away in a quiet, secluded location, yet just a stone's throw from Notting Hill Gate.

The wow factor...

The house has an underground car parking space accessed via a high-tech automated parking system with a car lift.

The specification is outstanding with a bespoke kitchen by Bulthaup, underfloor heating and comfort cooling.

Who it would suit...

With three bedrooms, a fantastic kitchen/dining room, separate living room and large media room on the lower ground floor, the house has plenty of space and would suit a couple, downsizers moving from a larger London home or a smaller family.

My favourite room...

The master bedroom as it occupies the entire first floor of the house, has a

separate dressing area and a grand bathroom with freestanding bath, double sink and huge shower.

Why you should buy it...

This house ticks all the boxes – modern, immaculate and ready to move into this September. There is nothing else like it on the market in Notting Hill. ■

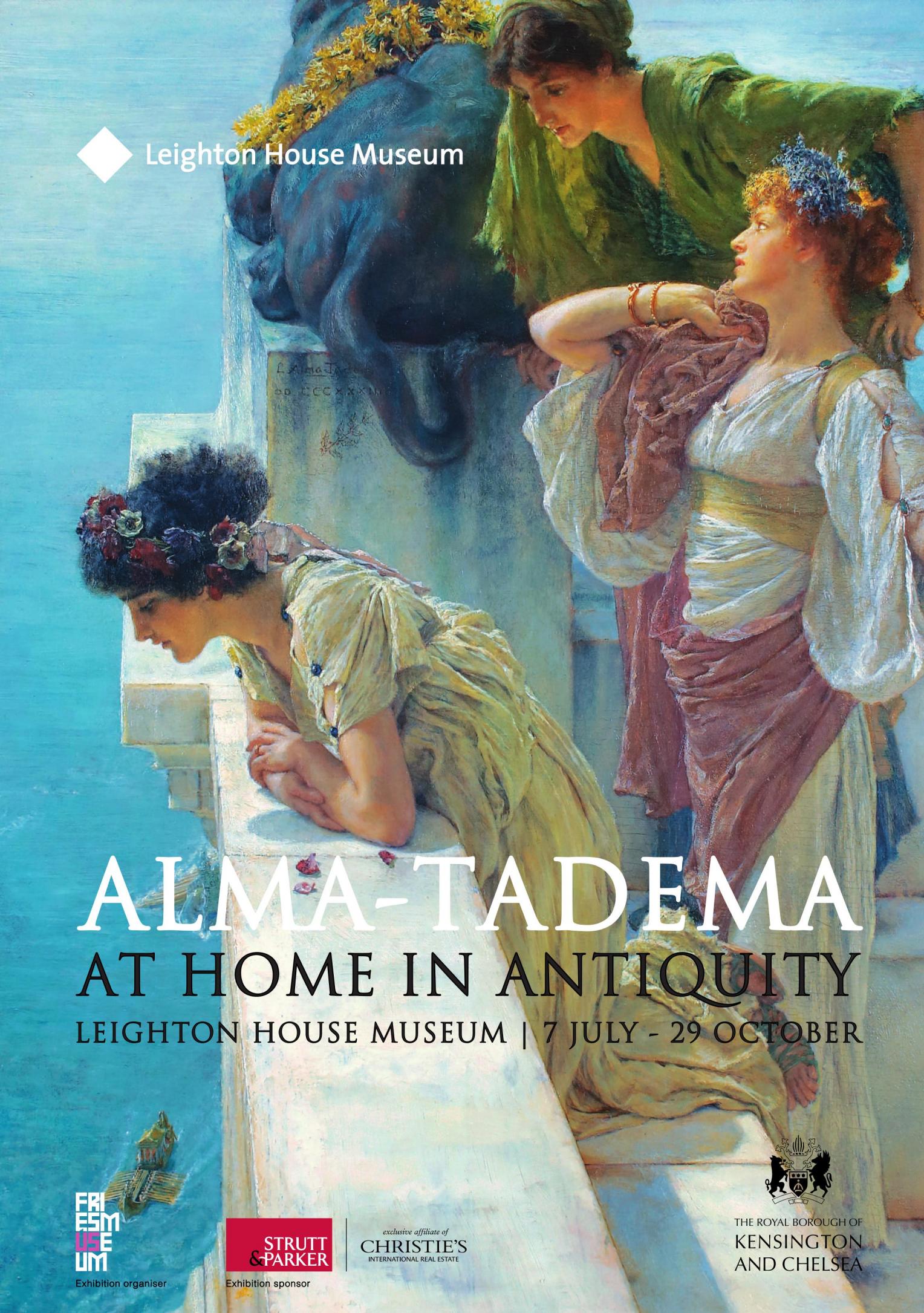
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Cornwall Gardens, South Kensington SW7

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824 sq ft (77 sq m) | EPC rating C
Reception room | Kitchen | Two bedrooms |
Two bathrooms | Lift | Private communal gardens



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Mallord Street, Chelsea SW3

£2,750 per week* Unfurnished



A substantial family house, arranged over three floors boasting a pretty paved garden near the Kings Road.

2,100 sq ft (195 sq m) | EPC rating E
Double Reception Room | Kitchen | Dining Room | Master Suite | Four Further Double Bedroom | Three Bathrooms | Garden

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* The following Tenant Charges may apply prior to tenancy commencement: Tenancy Agreement £222 (inc VAT) Credit References per application £54 (inc VAT). All advertised prices are excluded of utility and other associated services.

Ennismore Gardens, Knightsbridge SW7

£3,750 per week* Furnished



An exceptional first floor lateral apartment 1,625 sq ft (150 sq m) | EPC rating D
in arguably the best position on
Ennismore Gardens.

Entrance hall | Reception room | Kitchen |
Master bedroom suite | Second bedroom
with ensuite | Guest WC | Balcony

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Palace Gardens Terrace, Kensington W8

£5,250 per week* Unfurnished



A beautifully presented Victorian stucco fronted family house, with the advantage of a lovely south west facing garden.

3,407 sq ft (316 sq m) | EPC rating D
Three reception rooms | Kitchen/breakfast room | Six bedrooms | Four bathrooms | Utility room | Garden | Balcony | Vaults

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Walton Street, Chelsea SW3

£3,150,000 Freehold



&

A fantastic four bedroom non-basement house with the rare combination of an attractive garden and a private garage.

1,560 Sq Ft (144 sq m) | EPC Rating C

Entrance hall | Double reception room | Kitchen | Cloakroom | Master bedroom suite | Three further bedrooms |
Bathroom | Garden | Garage

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Royal Court House, Knightsbridge SW1

£3,950,000 Leasehold



&

A top floor lateral apartment in this prestigious 24 hour portered building with superb garden views.

1,548 sq ft (143 sq m) | EPC rating C

Entrance hall | Reception room | Kitchen | Conservatory/dining room | Master bedroom suite | Second double bedroom suite | Third bedroom | Shower room | Lift | 24hr porter | Communal gardens

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